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MILITARY REPORT

ON

MESOPOTAMIA

(IRAQ).

Area 8 (WESTERN KURDISTAN).

(Provisional.)

Compiled by
THE GENERAL STAFF,
BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ.

1923.

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MILITARY REPORT ON MESOPOTAMIA
(IRAQ).

Area 1.	Northern Jazirah ..	Raqqah on the Euphrates to Mosul on the Tigris (both exclusive).
Area 2.	Euphrates	Raqqah to Fallujah (both inclusive).
Area 3.	Tigris	Mosul (inclusive) to Baghdad (exclusive).
Area 4.	Euphrates	Fallujah (exclusive) to Darraji (inclusive).
Area 5.	Tigris	Baghdad to Kut al Amarah (both inclusive) with Lower Diyalah and Upper Shatt al Hai.
Area 6.	Euphrates	Darraji to Qurnah and Gurmat Ali (all exclusive) and Shatt al Hai downstream of Kut al Hai (exclusive) (with Shatt al Arab right bank downstream of Persian Frontier).
Area 7.	Tigris	Kut al Amarah (exclusive) to Qurnah (inclusive) with Shatt al Arab. Qurnah to the Persian Frontier.
Area 8.	Western Kurdistan.	
Area 9.	Central Kurdistan.	
Area 10.	Southern Kurdistan.	

Key Map of Areas in Pocket.

JULY 1922.

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NOTE.

This report has been compiled at short notice, on such information as was available at the time, to meet the demand for a volume of practical use giving this information in a handy form. Furthermore, the area under survey has been within hostile territory since the time Turkey entered the Great War, consequently detailed information concerning it has been, and still is, consistently hard to obtain.

It, therefore, doubtless contains numerous errors both of omission and commission. It is hoped that all such will be pointed out freely with a view to the production of a revised edition at an early date.

GENERAL STAFF,
BRITISH FORCES IN IRAQ,
July 1922.

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Maps in the pocket of this volume—
(1) Key Map of Military Report Areas in Mesopotamia.
(2) Map of Area No. 8.

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CHAPTER I.

HISTORY.

General.—Western Kurdistan has since the beginning of historical times constituted a land-bridge along which the powers of east and west have flung their armies in essays at imperial expansion. It has never formed a complete political unit by itself. In consequence its history consists of a series of incidents in the larger histories of the various powers, which have occupied it throughout the centuries, and is only regional, in so far as the actual natives of Western Kurdistan have been in rebellion against such powers. Its past is somewhat mistily described in the annals of the Arab historians, the books of travellers and Turkish administrative reports. The legendary lore of the Kurdish tribes is of psychological rather than of historical value.

Ancient.—The clash of opposing civilizations has naturally thrown into Western Kurdistan a medley of dissimilar races and institutions, but the predominant and most numerous population is Kurdish. It has now been satisfactorily established that the Kurds are of an Aryan stock, which settled temporarily after one of the great Aryan migratory periods in Azerbaijan, and gradually pushed their way westward between the lakes of Urmia and Van on the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates. In this, as in other districts where they have settled, the Kurds, thanks perhaps to some talent for survival inherent in the race, have contrived after semi-absorption in the empires of Assyria, Medea, Macedonia, Persia, Rome, and Turkey, not only to maintain a savage sort of independence, but to keep their racial and social characteristics immune from foreign influence.

Another large and important element in the population was the Armenians, who seem to have been early inhabitants of Western Kurdistan where they first became a united nation under Haig. Immediately before the Christian era, a certain King, Dikran by name, formed an Armenian State round the city of Diarbekr, which is said to have taken its name from him. Armenia's enjoyment of independence was shortlived and was irretrievably lost in the struggle between Parthia and

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Rome. From these far-off days Armenia has striven hardily for her lost nationhood, but she has never gained anything more concrete than her present position.

During the seventh and eighth centuries the Amirs of Arabia, inflated with their successes in Syria and Lower Iraq, pushed their conquering arms into the Kurdish hills. The latter they were never able to hold, while the Kurdish population of the plains, retiring into the mountain fastnesses, escaped Arab bondage, but carried with them the more bitter thraldom of Muhammad's creed. From the eighth century the Kurds adopted Islamism as their national, or rather, racial religion.

About A.D. 1000 the Seljuk Turks occupied Mesopotamia and such portions (the lowlands) of Western Kurdistan as were then in Arab hands. Two centuries later, the savage hordes of Mongol Tartars swept westward and in their harrowing marches blotted out the last vestiges of Arab civilization in Western Kurdistan, but left the Kurdish population to its seclusion and new religion. In the middle of the sixteenth century, the Ottoman Turks took nominal possession of Kurdistan, which has remained in their hands ever since. Except along the Black Sea littoral, the Turkish invaders did not remain as settlers, but swept straight on towards the Bosphorus and the coffers of Europe.

Modern.—The last fifty years in Western Kurdistan have been marked by efforts to secure the elimination of the local Armenian population and the establishment on a stronger basis of government control in the whole area.

The Turks have always, somewhat erroneously, suspected the Armenians of disloyalty to the Ottoman Government, and that their political ideas tended to favour the advance of Russian power in Anatolia. The Armenians, though undoubtedly chafing under many grievances, have, on the other hand, manifested an impolitic attitude of moral and intellectual superiority over the Turks, who could only view such an attitude with resentment. In consequence the Turks, whose comparative savagery is too well known to require further comment, had recourse in their solution of the Armenian problem, to the barbaric methods of their Mongol ancestors—murder and deportation. In 1888, a serious anti-Armenian outbreak took place in Kharput and Mush, while in 1896 occurred a massacre on a gigantic scale in which some 300,000 Armenians were butchered. The Great Powers, owing to jealousy and suspicion of

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each other's motives, were only able in the ensuing years to restrain the Turks from open murder and rape. After the outbreak of war the Ottoman authorities, inspired by those eminent apostles of liberty, Talaat and Enver Pasha, considered the occasion uniquely opportune for the elimination of both the Armenian problem and race. An order was therefore issued that the whole Armenian population was to be deported from Anatolia to Syria, Mosul and Deir ez Zor. The deportations were carried out with characteristic Turkish bloodshed; thousands of men, women, and children were murdered in Kharput, Mush and Diarbekr; women were raped, violated and sent to Turkish harems; and now, of a large Armenian population, all that remain are a few families round Diarbekr and a few score in the larger towns.

The tide of Arab conquest, which in the eighth century reached the Kurdish hills, withdrew and again flowed into Western Kurdistan with the Shammar conquests, has of late years perceptibly receded. The Shammar Jarba at one time swept the country-side as far as Urfah, Mardin and Nisibin, while the sedentary Kurds of these regions were in danger of being pushed into the mountains to the north. Eventually, however, the Milli, under the able leadership of Ibrahim Pasha and aided by contingents of the Anizah and Shammar Jarba, were able to thrust the Shammar from their territories. The establishment of strong Turkish garrisons in Nisibin, Mardin and Urfah also has tended to keep Arab depredations at a minimum. It is a curious reflection on the intricacies of tribal politics that the tendency now is for the Milli, Shammar Jarba and Tai to unite against the aggression of the Anizah.

The establishment of garrisons in the larger towns was a measure calculated to bring Western Kurdistan under better governmental control, but it was found that, while this obtained in the towns, there was no appreciable difference on the lawlessness of the tribes. The late Sultan Abdul Hamid, therefore, in order to deal with this problem, and more especially to utilise the large numbers of armed mounted men possessed by Kurdish and Arab confederations, instituted the Hamidieh cavalry. In all, sixty-six regiments were raised. Each tribe, if it wished to adopt the scheme, was allowed to raise one or more regiments, according to its strength. For example, the Milli raised three regiments which formed a brigade under Ibrahim Pasha. The chief features in the organization was that the Hamidieh units

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remained tribal. They were officered by their own chiefs, who were given Turkish military rank corresponding to the number of men they controlled. Beyond the inducements of the grant of titles and army rank to tribal chiefs, other privileges were conferred by the Turks. These included a certain amount of license in the shape of looting other tribes, while any Hamidieh tribe was always sure of government support in its disputes with a tribe which furnished no irregular cavalry. The effect of this system was to form in Western Kurdistan a cordon along the Aleppo–Diarbekr–Bitlis route of tribes who would possibly be faithful to government and ensure the safety of communications between the Mediterranean and the East. Furthermore, the Hamidieh tribes were played off one against the other; petty jealousies between chiefs were fostered; while the danger of a strong Kurdish tribal confederation was obviated.

Immediately after the Revolution of 1908, Ibrahim Pasha, disillusionised in the promises and hopes held out by the Young Turks, attempted to break away from the new government and form a small autonomous state. The attempt failed; Ibrahim was thrown into Diarbekr prison, and the prestige of the authorities grew in proportion.

During the war 1914–1918, despite a violently-preached jihad, the tribes of Western Kurdistan only furnished small mounted contingents to the Turkish forces. The Milli raised 1,000 horsemen for service in Russia, but they never even received their arms. The effects of the war were badly felt in Western Kurdistan. The population was reduced to half its former numbers and the area under cultivation dwindled to two-thirds of the pre-war area. There was, following the Russian advance in 1916, a certain inflow of refugees from Van and Bitlis, but these have nearly all returned to their former dwelling-places. The supply of arms was enormously increased, and the whole tribal population as a result is now well equipped with modern rifles and ammunition.

In 1919 the Turkish Nationalists made strenuous efforts to gather the Kurdish tribes to their support, and to this end adopted the following methods:—

(i) Removal of chiefs hostile to government.

(ii) Conciliation of doubtful or friendly chiefs.

(iii) Recruitment of townsmen and tribesmen in a loose military organisation known as the "Milice," *i.e.*, militia.

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Little success followed the Nationalist essay, and it is worthy of note that the removal of hostile chiefs has never been accomplished by military means alone. Political intrigue, jealousy and greed have been more efficacious weapons than regular troops, a fact amply borne out by the history of Ali Batti.

Ali Batti, the paramount chief of the Haverki Kurds, had gained a widespread reputation as a brigand, who had even forced the town of Nisibin to pay towards the upkeep of his band. He became such a terror on the roads round Nisibin and Mardin that the military authorities were forced to take action. In order to deal with Ali Batti's stronghold in the Jabal Tur, a force consisting of one battalion from Midiat, one battalion from Nisibin, and gendarmes from Jazirah ibn Omar was concentrated in the Jabal Tur, and, though seemingly successful in overcoming Ali Batti's resistance, were unable to administer the *coup de grace* to that elusive brigand. The Haverki chief remained at large until the Turks released Hajo, tribesman of Ali Batti and a chief of the Haverki, from prison on condition that he removed Ali Batti. Eventually the latter was murdered by Hajo.

The actual expedition against the Haverki lost a negligible number of lives, but the difficulties of regular troops operating against the Kurds in the Kurdish hills was clearly shown. The country could be occupied, but it was impossible to maintain the troops in it for more than a short period, while the rebel chief remained at large and gained greatly in prestige with the departure of the troops.

As a whole the Kurdish tribes have shown no great desire to help the Nationalists. There have been numerous small risings in the area, particularly of the Haverki and Milli. The denudation of the Nisibin-Mardin area of regular troops in order to reinforce, firstly, the French and, latterly, the Greek fronts, induced the Milli to throw in their lot with the French. They murdered the Turkish authorities in Veranshehr and only retired before a large military force into French territories. They continued raids into their former habitat and on one occasion inflicted a severe defeat on the Nationalist forces, capturing two guns.

Western Kurdistan is of peculiar interest to the government of Iraq, since it is from this area that the emissaries of Turkish pan-Islamism have made their way to the tribes of Iraq, and because it is from Western Kurdistan that any movement on Mosul would be likely

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to take place. When the Allies failed to realise in 1919 the elasticity of the Nationalist demands as laid down in the Erzerum manifesto, the Nationalists immediately began to inaugurate a bitter anti-British policy in Western Kurdistan. By some means or other the Kurdish Nationalists, who had formerly betrayed sympathy with the possible British occupation of Kurdistan, were won over to the Turkish side. In pursuance of their violent anti-British crusade the Nationalists removed Jevdat Bey, Officer Commanding the 13th Army Corps, and Ali Bey, Officer Commanding 2nd Division, from their commands and put in their places Nihad Pasha and Akif Bey, who were known to have no Arab and strong anti-British sympathies. These two initiated a wide campaign of propaganda on the northern frontier of Iraq, circularizing and presenting with arms the Shammar, Tai, Juhaish and Tel Afaris. The Sherifian advance on Tel Afar in 1920 came as a blow to the Turks and their propaganda cooled down. After the Sherifian failure at Tel Afar it revived again under the ægis of Ajaimi al Sadun and latterly of Ahmad al Senussi. Ajaimi worked from Mardin until the middle of 1921, but evidently quarrelled with the Turks and was thought to be meditating a return to Iraq. Ahmad al Senussi arrived in Diarbekr about January, 1921, and, though his religious prestige is great even among the Iraq tribes, he was unable to accomplish any great pro-Turkish movement amongst them. In 1921 the Nationalists, who had before favoured any Arab risings in Iraq in order to exploit them at a later date, were chagrined to find the British policy of an Arab King for Iraq widely popular. They, therefore, adopted the idea of establishing a Turkish Prince, Burhan al Din, on the throne of Iraq. This idea they widely propagandized amongst the frontier tribes and in Baghdad and Mosul. It found readiest sympathy amongst ex-Turkish officials and the Turcoman population in Tel Afar and Kirkuk districts.

In the spring of 1922 the situation in Western Kurdistan does not indicate any possible Turkish move on Mosul. The Kurdish tribes contrive to do much as they like; the Milli are in open revolt; the Shammar and Tai are indifferent to any form of government, and the Turkish forces have been reduced to a minimum in order to ease the situation in Western Anatolia. The Nationalist energies are, therefore, confined to propaganda amongst the frontier tribes, and, propaganda without military forces to back it is unlikely to meet with much success.

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By the treaty of Sèvres a small part of Western Kurdistan was put under the mandate of France, but that power has never been able to take over its responsibilities owing to the hostility of the Nationalists. At one time it seemed possible that Western Kurdistan might form part of an independent Kurdistan guaranteed by the great powers. This idea appears to have lapsed, and, although certain educated Kurdish chiefs continue to cherish dreams of independence, it is unlikely that they will gain this unless they take the necessary step of defeating and driving the Turkish forces from Western Kurdistan. The future of that area, therefore, has still to be settled.

CHAPTER II.

GEOGRAPHY.

Boundaries.—The area under report is bounded on the

North by the Murad River flowing west from a point immediately north of Mush;

West by the Euphrates flowing south as far as Birejik;

South by an imaginary line running from Birejik-Urfah-Ras al Ain-Nisibin-Wadi Suwaidiyah to the River Tigris;

East by a line drawn from Mush to the source of the Batman River, and thence along the left bank of the Batman River, and also of the Tigris down the junction of the Wadi Suwaidiyah and River Tigris.

Note.—The town of Mosul is excluded from the area; other towns on the bounding lines are included.

The area enclosed by the above boundaries consists of approximately 19,000 square miles, and embraces the whole of the Diarbekr Vilayet, together with portions of the Vilayets of Kharput, Aleppo and Bitlis.

General.—Within this area every variety of climate is to be found. This is on account of the great contrast to be found between the hills of Kurdistan in the north and the plains of Iraq in the south. North of a line passing through Urfah-Diarbekr-Mosul, the country is uniformly mountainous. Where plains do exist, as, for example, around Mush, they are at such a high altitude

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and so broken by mountain ranges as to possess a climate usually associated solely with mountainous districts. South of this line extends the great Iraq plain, broken only occasionally by comparatively low hills, as, for example, the hills of Mardin and the Sinjar country.

The Northern Iraq plain is, roughly, between 900 and 1,000 feet above sea-level. The highlands north of Diarbekr vary from 2,000 to 5,000 feet in height. The highest point included is the Ziaret Dagh, south-west of the Geuljik Lake, but there is no other peak to compare with this in altitude.

The whole of this region is drained by the Tigris and Euphrates, and by the numerous mountain streams which go to swell these great rivers near their sources. The whole of this water passes to the sea by a single mouth—at Fao.

Mountains.—The northern portion of Western Kurdistan is traversed by a lofty mountain chain, which rises up out of the Mush plain, and stretches away westward until it culminates in the Ziaret Dagh, a peak over 7,000 feet high. This chain is crossed by the main road from Diarbekr to Kharput near Arghana Maden, where there is a break in the mountains. The road is metalled and is passable for all arms.

The Murad River flows through the valley lying to the north of this range; then, after its junction with the Euphrates, turns away westward, only to retrace its course and wash the foot of the Ziaret Dagh.

The metalled road from Diarbekr to Bitlis passes south of the above-mentioned range, and, until it crosses over to the left bank of the Batman River, traverses no high ground.

In the southern portion of the area, the south-west corner is occupied by the Iraq plain, and no points over 2,000 feet are met with. The same applies to the south-east corner which lies between Mosul and Nisibin.

South-west of Diarbekr, a solitary commanding peak called the Karajah Dagh attains a height of over 6,000 feet. This peak is said to be of volcanic origin. It is important from the position which it occupies just south of the Diarbekr–Severek–Aleppo road.

South-east of Diarbekr is an expanse of country broken up by hills of from 2,000 to 3,500 feet high. Mardin is built on the summit of one of these hills, from which a perfect view can be obtained over the Mesopotamian plain. Midiat is built in the heart of this broken country,

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and although none of these hills reach 4,000 feet, yet their effect upon communications is so bad that tracks are impossible for wheeled vehicles to Midiat. These hills attain their greatest height near Hasan Kaif on the left bank of the Tigris. South of Midiat, between Mardin and Jazirah, this broken country is generally designated the Tur Abdin, or Jabal Tur.

Rivers.—The whole of Western Kurdistan, as indeed the whole of Kurdistan and Iraq, is drained by the Tigris and the Euphrates and their tributaries. All the important tributaries of both rivers join the main streams on the left bank.

(*a*) *The Tigris System.*—The Tigris has its source north of Diarbekr near Lake Geuljik, but speedily becomes swollen by various mountain streams flowing down from the hills lying to the north-east. At Diarbekr during the low water season the river sometimes consists of nothing more than a series of pools connected by a narrow channel, but it is safer to reckon on finding a channel 80 yards wide even during the months of August and September. In the flood season during March and April the Tigris here rises 8 feet and is from 400 to 500 yards wide.

From Diarbekr to the junction with the Batman River, which often contains as much water as the parent stream and has even been dignified by the name of the Eastern Branch of the Tigris, the river flows over a wide shingly bed; after the junction its course lies in a narrow deep channel between high cliffs. There are no rocks in the fairway to impede navigation.

The Hazo and Bitlis Rivers are also important tributaries flowing in on the left bank.

At Til the Bohtan River enters the Tigris. The valley becomes more open, the channel wider and the current more sluggish. The bed still consists of sand and shingle.

At Jazirah ibn Omar the river emerges into open undulating country. The stream is 140 yards wide and in places 10 to 15 feet deep in July. The total width in spring flood, when it rises 8 feet above the July level, is from 400 to 500 yards. At that time the current flows $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour, but is much less rapid at other seasons of the year. The bed below Jazirah ibn Omar remains of the same character throughout. A main channel 100 to 150 yards wide wanders over a bed of shingle 600 to 800 yards broad, which is only completely covered in flood time.

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The Khabur River, flowing through Zakho, joins the Tigris near Faish-Khabur.

Throughout its entire course the Tigris provides an unlimited supply of drinking water. In the vicinity of large towns the water is much polluted by tanning operations performed on kellek skins, and, unless special precautions are taken, watering-places should invariably be selected upstream.

Above Diarbekr there is little navigation, and then only in the flood season. There are no craft available with the exception of small kelleks. Between Diarbekr and Mosul kelleks are freely used at all seasons of the year. For ferry purposes heavily-built pontoons are used. Many of these boats are capable of carrying an A.T. cart complete. Power-propelled craft are not employed, though there is no reason why heavily-engined shallow draft launches should not be used to tow rafts upstream from Mosul. (*See* Communications, Chapter VIII.)

The only tributaries of the Tigris, which fall within the scope of this report, are the Dibene and the Batman Rivers. These both join the parent stream on the left bank: the former nearly midway between Diarbekr and Arghana, the latter about 45 miles downstream of Diarbekr. The Dibene River drains the hilly country immediately north of Diarbekr. The Batman River drains the mountains west of Bitlis. Neither of these tributaries is suitable for navigation. The Batman could possibly be used during the flood months of the year.

The total length of the bridge at Diarbekr is 165 yards in two portions, one next the right bank, with a roadway 30 feet wide, and five masonry arches of 22 feet each; and the other consisting of three arches of 48 feet over the main channel, and two minor arches of 22 feet next the left bank, with a roadway 16 feet wide. This bridge enjoys the distinction of being the only brick or stone bridge which still remains standing over the Tigris.

At Jazirah ibn Omar a pontoon bridge existed up to the autumn of 1917 when it was carried away. Ineffectual efforts have been made to repair this bridge, but at present the only means of crossing the Tigris is by three boats measuring about 20 feet by 8 feet. There are also the ruins of a stone bridge.

At Hasan Kaif there are the remains of an old stone bridge which might possibly be repaired. There is in addition a small kellek in use as a ferry. Animals are towed behind the kellek.

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At Deraf is a ferry boat capable of carrying three animals, three passengers, and their loads. In construction it is probably similar to those in use at Mosul.

At Gormav are two boats similar to that at Deraf.

At Challek is a kellek similar to that at Hasan Kaif.

Both the Batman River and the Tigris above the point of junction can be forded at frequent intervals except during the times of highest flood. At low water fords exist at several points below this point, notably at Hasan Kaif and at Faish-Khabur.

(*b*) *The Euphrates System.*—Of the two branches of the Upper Euphrates, the Frat River does not come into the scope of this report until its junction with the Murad, or southern branch of the Euphrates, near Keban Maden.

After leaving the Mush plain the Murad River enters a deep gorge which opens in the Chabakchur plain, where the Gunik, a large tributary, joins from Bingeul; after this another series of gorges is passed until below Palu, where a wide plain is entered, which extends up to the Kharput. Thence, to the junction with the Frat River, the stream follows a narrow valley containing some cultivation and villages.

Several large tributaries such as the Gunik and the Kighi join the Murad on the right bank.

After the junction of its two branches the Euphrates enters the Malatia plain, receiving the Tokma, a large stream which descends through rocky winding defiles from the Geurun and Darende districts.

On leaving the Malatia plain the Euphrates enters a series of difficult gorges, with mountains rising several thousand feet on either hand and many rapids obstructing the stream, until it finally emerges into the Mesopotamian plain between Gerger and Samsat. It makes a wide bend towards the Mediterranean, receiving the Kiakhta and other tributaries from the north, circles round by Birijik, and then enters on its long course through the desert toward the Persian Gulf.

At Birijik the river is usually about 300 yards wide. Its greatest width in flood is 600 to 700 yards. There is a strong current. A depth of eight feet is sometimes found, but there is usually not more than five to six feet of water.

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At Samsat there is a large flat-bottomed boat in use as a ferry. At Birijik there is a thriving "Shakhtur" building trade, and from twelve to twenty shakhturs capable of carrying five tons each could quickly be assembled here. The rate of building is very rapid, twelve men being capable of building one shakhtur in a day. Shakhturs are rough flat-bottomed boats, usually navigated in pairs. During the war large numbers of shakhturs were built for carrying troops and supplies down the Euphrates and it is said that the forests are seriously depleted. Above Birijik both the Euphrates and the Murad Rivers can be forded at numerous points except those reaches which run through deep rocky gorges. In these places the approaches are the chief difficulty.

Fifteen miles below Birijik was the iron railway bridge over the Euphrates at Jerablus, but this was destroyed by the Turkish Nationalists in 1920.

The Euphrates is at no point suitable for the navigation of kelleks, owing to the frequent rocky obstructions in the bed of the river.

Chief Towns.—Diarbekr.—Diarbekr is situated on the right bank of the Tigris, which curves round the town on the north-east, east, and south-east. The town commands the northern end of the passage between the Qarajah Dagh and the Tur Abdin into the Mesopotamian plain. The Tigris here varies in width from 80 yards at low water to 500 yards at flood time. For a description of the bridge see under rivers.

Diarbekr has a very mixed population, consisting of Kurds, Arabs, Turks, and several categories of Christians. The latter have been reduced to approximately one-fifth of their pre-war numbers. A detailed analysis is given below:—

Race.	Families.	Population.
Moslems (Kurds, Arabs and Turks)	5,000	25,000
Armenians	320	2,200
Syrian Jacobites	300	1,600
Syrian Catholics	—	270
Chaldeans	200	1,000
Greeks	—	300
Total	—	30,370

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Diarbekr is the chief town of a vilayet and is also the headquarters of the Jazirah front. The official, civil and military portion of the population probably amounts to between 1,500 and 2,000.

The town is surrounded by a bastioned wall with a moat on the outer side, but this wall has fallen into disrepair, and, though capable of assisting in the defence of the town against tribal raids, is of no military importance against modern artillery. The government buildings are all at the north end of the town, and a mile outside the Kharput gate there is a block of barracks. Two main streets run from north to south and from east to west. In general the streets are narrow (10 to 15 feet wide), rough, and unevenly paved with cobble stones. There are nearly 200 khans.

Drinking water is obtained from numerous sources:—

(*a*) From the Tigris.

(*b*) From numerous wells (water bad and brackish).

(*c*) From the Hamarvat aqueduct. The source of supply is near Sarab Geuzlu. There is enough water to supply the whole town.

(*d*) From the Ulu Jami Suyu. Water is brought in by aqueduct from Ali Punar, 1½ miles to the west.

(*e*) From the Kala Suyu. Source is outside the town.

(*f*) From the Geul Jami. The chief source of supply before the construction of the Hamarvat.

(*g*) From the Balikhli. Outside the town near the Rum gate.

The climate in summer is very hot and unhealthy. Epidemics are frequent and opthalmia is common. There is a Diarbekr boil similar to that of Baghdad. The winters are severe but not long. The best camping grounds are outside the town on the far bank of the river, where a slope rises to 150 or 200 feet above the river.

Diarbekr is an important telegraph centre, through which formerly passed the line from Fao to Constantinople. There are also lines to Bitlis and Aleppo, although it is probable that the line to the latter place is not now connected.

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Diarbekr is also the most important road centre in Western Kurdistan. There are routes to Aleppo via Urfah, to Mosul by river or via Mardin and Nisibin, to Sivas via Kharput, to Bitlis via Sairt and to Jazirah ibn Omar via Midiat.

Kharput.—Kharput and Mezre may be considered together. The latter is also called Yeni Kharput. Kharput proper lies on the sides of a difficult hill some 4 miles to the north of the new town. On account of its inaccessibility, its rival, Mezre, is rapidly growing, whilst Kharput is remaining stationary or even shrinking.

Kharput has a population of about 17,000, of whom the great majority are Moslems. It is uncertain how many Christians are surviving, but the number cannot be large.

The government buildings are situated at Mezre. There are barracks to accommodate 3,000 men, and also a military hospital. The residence of the Wali of Kharput is here. Most of the houses are two-storied, and are well built. The streets are wide and clean, and, as mentioned above, Mezre is a growing town.

The water supply is practically unlimited. It is conveyed into the town from springs by underground conduits, and in addition there are numerous wells.

Kharput proper is about 1,000 feet above the plain. On the south the ridge slopes steeply down to Mezre, on the north rather more gradually to the valley of the Murad. The town is dirty and cramped; the streets narrow, filthy and ill-paved. Kharput is the residence of a Qaimmaqam.

Water is obtained from numerous springs, but the supply is uncertain; owing to this fact the ridge is not a suitable camping ground for troops. The best camping ground is 3 miles east of the town, where as many as 15,000 troops have been camped at one time.

There are two flour-mills in Kharput and others in the district. They are worked by water-power. The plain is very fertile, and cotton, wheat, barley, vegetables and fruit are grown. As a rule there are few supplies surplus to the needs of the population. Grazing is good, but fuel is scarce.

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There is a *Chaussée* from Sivas which is continued to Diarbekr, and also one to Arabkhir and Egin. A *Chaussée* has been begun into Dersim, but is not completed. A cart track leads to Palu, but with these exceptions the roads radiating from Kharput are not suitable for wheels without improvement.

Mardin.—Mardin stands on the summit of a hill on the northern edge of the Iraq plain, over which it commands an extensive view. The population numbers roughly 25,000, mixed Kurds and Arabs, with a sprinkling of Turks and Christians.

The town is built on the southern slope of the hill. The houses are solidly constructed of stone, but the streets are very steep and narrow. Owing to the elevation being from 1,500 to 2,000 feet, the climate is better than most towns in Iraq. In winter snow is the rule, but not to any great extent.

To the north are large forests, which have been badly depleted to provide fuel for the railway. There is extensive cultivation in the surrounding districts. Cereals are chiefly grown and sheep pastured.

The trade of Mardin is very considerable. All imports to Diarbekr from Mosul and Aleppo pass through it. The town is full of Khans and a large proportion of the inhabitants are caravanchis. Also there are numerous travelling merchants who visit the migratory Arab tribes with their own animals and goods. Mardin, besides being the chief town of a Sanjaq in the Vilayet of Diarbekr, forms a good centre for the collection of transport animals.

Communications are good. A branch of the Aleppo-Nisibin Railway runs to Izzat Pasha, the station of Mardin, but situated some 5 miles outside the town. From here a narrow gauge line runs north to Badina Tupraghi, a distance of 12 miles. This line was originally intended to bring down wood from the forests for fuel, and it was once proposed to continue it to Diarbekr, but so far nothing has been done towards realization.

A motor road connects Mardin with Nisibin and Diarbekr. Other routes are to Midiat, Veranshehr and Ras al Ain. A telegraph line connects Mardin with Nisibin, Diarbekr and Midiat.

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Midiat.—Midiat lies in the mountainous country to the east of Mardin. It is the chief town of a Qaza in the Sanjaq of Mardin.

Before the war it was inhabited principally by Syrian Jacobites, of whom there were 800 houses. There was also a flourishing bazaar. During the time of Christian massacres the bazaar was burned, the population scattered and the houses looted.

At present the Muhammadan population is double what it was before the war, but a few Christians have returned to their homes and are trying to rebuild the town. It still remains in ruins for the most part.

There is no water supply in Midiat. Drinking water is collected in rock cisterns, but during the hot weather the supply is scanty even for the local population.

There is no road to Midiat suitable for wheeled transport. A telegraph office connects the town with Diarbekr.

Mush.—Before the war Mush was a town of 14,000 inhabitants and the centre of a Sanjaq in the Vilayet of Bitlis. The population was Kurd and Armenian mixed.

No definite news as to the present state of the town is available, but as the Armenians were originally massacred by the Kurds, and the Kurds were later driven out by the Russians and the Armenian Army of revenge, it is probably safe to conclude that most of the remnants of the town are ruins.

Houses were built of wood and stone, streets were narrow and winding, and the general aspect of the town was extremely dirty. The best camping ground is east of Mush near Mogonk, where there is a large spring and easy undulating slopes near by.

The climate is healthy, but cold. There is a heavy annual snowfall.

The Mush plain is fertile and produces cereals. In pre-war days the surplus was exported on boats across the lake to Van. There are well-wooded districts to the south, and fuel is plentiful.

Balad Sinjar.—*See* Chapter II., Area No. 1 (Northern Jazirah).

Tel Afar.—*See* Chapter II., Area No. 1 (Northern Jazirah).

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Urfa.—Urfa stands at the north-west corner of an extension of the Harran plain. The town is built on two hills with a ravine between. Through this ravine runs a small stream from west to east. The southern hill is crowned by a ruined citadel, which is now of little use against modern artillery. The streets are narrow and straggling, but the houses are built of stone and there are some good khans.

Before the war there was a mixed Kurdish and Turkish population with 7,500 Armenians, but the Armenians have suffered seriously through deportation and massacre.

There is a plentiful water supply entirely from springs. Some of the water is brought into the town from a distance, but the two main springs are on the slopes of the citadel hill, whence the water is run into stone tanks.

Urfa is the centre of a wheat growing district, and grazing is plentiful. Fuel is scarce and is brought into the town from a distance. Twigs, vine branches and tree stumps are used as substitutes for charcoal, which is very expensive.

Veranshehr.—Veranshehr is 45 miles west of Mardin. It is a small town enclosed by hills on three sides; but on the south the plain is open to Ras al Ain. The population is about 5,000, consisting of Kurds and Chechens (Circassians).

Veranshehr reached its greatest prosperity under the rule of Ibrahim Pasha of the Milli, who even imported some Armenian families to improve the town. After the revolt of 1908 the town was plundered by Turks and Arabs, but it is still the seat of the Chief of the Milli tribe, and enjoys a certain importance from that fact.

Good water is obtained from springs and wells, and some supplies could be obtained here, chiefly animals and sheep.

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CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS.

The area under discussion embraces the whole of the Diarbekr Vilayet, together with portions of the Vilayets of Aleppo, Kharput and Bitilis.

Vilayets or Division.	Sanjaq.	Qaza.
Diarbekr	Diarbekr	Diarbekr.
		Severek.
		Derek
		Silvan.
		Lijje.
		Busheri.
	Arghana	Arghana.
		Palu.
		Chermuk.
	Mardin	Mardin.
		Nisibin.
		Midiat.
		Sor.
		Jazirah ibn Omar.
Aleppo ..	Urfa.. . ..	Urfa.
		Harran.
		Seruj.
		Birijik.
		Rumkalah.
Bitlis	Mush	Mush.
		Sassun.
Kharput	Mamuret al Aziz ..	Mamuret al Aziz.
		Keban Maden.

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CHAPTER III.

CLIMATE.

General.—The climate of Western Kurdistan embraces all extremes. The whole area is completely landlocked, consequently steadying influence exercised by the presence of a large body of water is entirely lacking. Owing to its higher level, the northern portion of the area is cooler and more healthy than the southern portion, where in summer the Iraq plain is swept by a scorching wind from the north-west, and the temperature rises to 120° F. In winter snow falls throughout the whole district. North of Diarbekr the fall is sufficient to render roads temporarily impassable; in Mosul snow falls to the depth of a few inches once in every ten years.

In a country so little developed and so sparsely inhabited as Western Kurdistan it is only natural that meteorological observation has been neglected. An interrupted series of observations exist from three places only —Urfa, Diarbekr and Mosul. An exact knowledge of the conditions prevailing in the northern portion of the area is lacking, the only records being the notebooks of individual travellers.

Rainfall.—The following data are available regarding the rainfall in the northern portion of the Iraq plain. The figures given represent the mean monthly rainfall in inches.

Town.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.
Urfa.. ..	2·64	2·64	2·91	1·18	0·87	0·04	Nil.	Nil.	0·16	0·47	1·81	2·27
Diarbekr ..	2·05	1·97	4·10	2·84	1·54	0·16	Nil.	Nil.	0·04	0·71	3·15	2·68
Mosul ..	2·49	3·06	3·37	2·09	0·48	0·11	Nil.	Nil.	0·31	0·26	2·10	1·91

From the above figures it will be seen that during the six months from May to October inclusive, scarcely any rain falls in Upper Iraq. A study of the figures for the remaining six months reveals the fact that the total rainfall for the year is almost, if not quite, incapable

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of meeting the agricultural needs of the population. This defect is remedied by the use of the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates, and also of numerous mountain streams, for irrigation. These rivers have their sources in the northern half of Western Kurdistan, and their waters are maintained from the snows which fall in this mountainous district. An accurate estimate of the extent of the snowfall is impossible. Suffice it to say that in spring, when the snows melt, the depth of the Tigris is increased by eight feet and the width by as much as 300 yards. During the remainder of the year the snow-fed mountain springs maintain the normal level of the river.

Snow commences to fall in the hills around Kharput in early December, and it is not until the middle of May that it has entirely disappeared. During these months any military movement north of Diarbekr would be extremely difficult, if conducted on a large scale. On the other hand, this time of year is the best for movement on the Iraq plain, and during these winter months troops could easily be concentrated in Diarbekr ready for an advance northward following on the melting of the snows.

Winds.—The general direction of winds throughout the year is from the north-west, sometimes bearing west and sometimes north. During the winter months occasional breezes spring up from the south.

The prevailing wind then passes over the plateaux of Anatolia and Kurdistan and descends upon the plains as a dry current of air, rapidly heating up as it descends from the level of the mountains. Calms are of unusual occurrence, but it is the rule throughout the area for the wind to attain its maximum velocity during the day. In the evening a strong wind diminishes to a gentle breeze which gradually gathers speed after dawn the following morning.

During the summer months sandstorms frequently occur in the plains of Upper Iraq, from Urfa and Diarbekr to Mosul. The burning wind driving along with it a cloud of dust provides a most unpleasant experience, and visibility is often limited to a few hundred yards for hours together. In the higher country to the north, sandstorms are unknown and visibility remains good throughout the summer. From Mardin a view of 60 miles over the Iraq plain can be obtained.

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Experience has proved that the air among the Kurdish mountains does not provide a good medium for the transmission of messages by wireless telegraphy. In summer the air is clear enough to afford good opportunities for visual signalling. In winter clouds interfere with visibility and land lines are a necessity.

Temperature.—As in the case of records of rainfall, there is an absence of accurate observations from the northern portion of Western Kurdistan. Data for Urfa, Diarbekr and Mosul are available and are given below.

The most noteworthy point with regard to the temperature is the wide range. On the plain the thermometer varies between freezing point and 120° F. according to the season of the year. North of Diarbekr the cold weather, though probably not more intense, lasts much longer than in the south owing to the pressure of masses of snow on the mountains. But, during the hot weather, the mountainous country is much cooler owing to the greater altitude. Kharput, for example, remains bearable and healthy throughout the year; Diarbekr and Mosul are scorchingly hot for three or four months every year.

Medical Conditions.—Troops in the open are exposed to great extremes of temperature, both owing to the difference between summer and winter temperatures and also to the difference between those of day and night. On the plains the population suffers from skin eruptions similar to the Baghdad boil. This is particularly the case at Diarbekr and Mosul. Europeans are also attacked.

The northern portion of the area is much more healthy than the southern, in fact, during the summer the Kurdish mountains provide many sites suitable for hill stations and sanatoria.

From April to October inclusive, Europeans are liable to suffer from sun and heat strokes. With reasonable precautions this danger can be avoided.

More difficult to deal with are the insects which flourish everywhere. Throughout the whole area the malarial mosquito is to be found. Experience in the hills of Central Kurdistan has shown that the field hospitals on operations become more choked with malarial patients than with sufferers from the bullets of the enemy. There is no reason to believe that conditions are any different in Western Kurdistan.

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Table of Maximum Temperatures.

Town.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Urfa	59·0	69·1	83·1	89·4	97·3	106·3	110·7	108·5	101·8	90·5	78·8	61·7
Diarbekr	51·1	60·1	65·7	79·7	91·6	104·9	106·2	107·8	93·2	84·9	69·8	62·4
Mosul	62·6	66·4	71·1	87·6	103·3	110·3	118·8	117·7	113·9	97·0	86·5	71·8

Table of Minimum Temperatures.

Town.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Urfa	23·0	22·1	30·2	39·2	45·5	53·6	66·2	67·1	51·8	48·2	37·6	19·4
Diarbekr	20·4	17·2	26·1	36·5	46·0	52·9	67·5	66·2	54·3	43·5	32·9	16·3
Mosul	4·3	5·2	34·5	37·6	53·2	61·9	71·2	67·1	58·3	48·9	29·1	27·9

Table of Mean Temperatures.

Town.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Urfa	40·3	47·8	52·3	62·6	71·2	81·7	88·9	88·9	80·4	70·0	55·4	46·0
Diarbekr	30·9	40·5	47·5	58·5	68·2	78·8	87·4	87·3	76·5	63·9	50·4	40·1
Mosul	41·0	46·0	52·0	62·6	76·5	86·5	94·8	93·4	85·5	73·2	59·0	48·2

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During the hot weather flies are a great pest. This inconvenience, however, grows less and less the farther that one advances into the hills. It is only on the borders of the Iraq plain that the nuisance reaches the dimensions of a plague.

From the above, it is seen that winter is the best time for the movement of troops in the plain; summer for the movement of troops in the mountains.

CHAPTER IV.

RESOURCES.

General.—The resources of Western Kurdistan are essentially agricultural and pastoral. There are a few minerals, but they are not intensively worked. Manufactures are extremely scarce, and factories are unknown.

The chief cereals are wheat and barley, which are grown everywhere. Next in order come rice, grown at Diarbekr, Urfa, Kharput, and Nisibin, and lentils in the Jabal Tur. Rice straw is used as fodder for cattle. A small quantity of millet and maize is also cultivated, but the entire output is taken up for home consumption. The same may be said of sesame. Sesame oil is employed for domestic cookery and for sweet-making.

The common vegetables are onions, cabbage, brindjals, potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes and beans. The common fruits are grapes, cultivated everywhere on the lower slopes of the Jabal Tur, figs, for which Sinjar is renowned, apricots, plums, pears and apples in the gardens around Kharput, Diarbekr, Mardin and Sor.

Natural products are timber and galls. The latter are exported via the Tigris and eventually find their way to the tanneries of Europe. There are three qualities of oak-galls—blue, green, and white. Of these, the first is most in demand, and it appears to flourish best after a severe winter. The wood of the oak is used for fuel.

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Walnut wood is employed for furniture making, whilst poplars are built into kelleks, and are also used in every kind of constructive work. There are large forests around Birejik, Mardin, Derek and Sor. These have suffered much on account of the war; timber being felled on a grand scale for fuel for the railway, and material for shakhturs and kelleks.

Tobacco is widely cultivated, the most noted quality coming from Mardin. The crop is sown in April and picked in September.

Methods of agriculture are extremely primitive. Ploughs are constructed of wood and drawn by cattle. Threshing machines of local manufacture do exist, but are rather uncommon. The grain is usually trodden out by cattle. Not all of the land is irrigated, and where this improvement has been made, the Government sometimes claims water rights. There are two sowings and two harvests. Rice, lentils, millet, sesame, and maize are sown in spring and harvested in autumn. Wheat, barley and beans are sown in autumn and harvested in spring.

The most important domestic animals are sheep and goats. These are bred for their meat, milk, and wool or hair. The herds have been reduced during the war to between one-fifth and one-tenth of their former numbers. Cattle are employed chiefly for draught and plough purposes. Buffalo milk is good. Horses, mules and donkeys are everywhere engaged in pack transport work, particularly in the mountains, where neither wheeled transport nor camels are of any use. Camels are extensively used for long-distance journeys in the plains. Fowls, ducks and turkeys also exist in a domesticated state.

Minerals are scarce, and are hardly worked at all. They comprise copper, galena, coal and salt.

Manufactures also are rather scanty, and factories are unknown. In Diarbekr and Kharput silk-weaving was carried on before the war. In Diarbekr alone there were 300 looms. Wine is fermented and arak distilled throughout the grape-growing districts. Diarbekr arak is very good. A coarse cloth is woven by women in their own homes, and carpets of an inferior quality are also manufactured. Coppersmiths, blacksmiths, tanners and dyers all carry on their trades in the bazaars, but nothing is produced for export.

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There are three main routes of commerce: (*a*) from the Mediterranean via Aleppo; (*b*) from the Persian Gulf via Baghdad and Mosul; (*c*) from the Black Sea via Kharput or Mush and Erzinjan. Exports consist almost entirely of raw materials, whilst manufactured articles are imported.

Data regarding production and surplus supplies in this area available for military use have always been scarce, but what figures have been previously collected are now quite out of date on account of the changes brought about by the war.

Minerals.—Very little is known concerning the mineral resources of Western Kurdistan, and no thorough surveys have been carried out. In only a few places has any effort been made to extract the mineral wealth from the soil, but, from all appearances, if the area was scientifically surveyed, there is every likelihood that valuable mineral deposits, principally of copper, would be discovered in the mountainous region north of Diarbekr.

Copper.—The more important mine at present worked is situated at Arghana, some 50 miles north-west of Diarbekr. This mine was first worked about A.D. 1096. It is now under Government control. The ore is a mixture of iron and copper pyrites, one or the other predominating as the case may be. Before the war the annual output was 1,200 tons. During the war every effort was made by both the Turks and Germans to increase the total output, and also to improve the methods used in treating the ore.

There is a small mine producing copper at Palu, north of Diarbekr. This is worked by private enterprise.

Coal.—Seams of Coal are reported at Hazo, north-east of Diarbekr. The quality of this coal is probably similar to that produced near Zakho.

Galena.—There is a small mine producing galena at Eghil, north-west of Diarbekr. This is worked by private enterprise.

Salt.—There are extensive salt works at Lijjeh, the chief town of a Qaza in the Diarbekr Vilayet. The production is about 250 tons per annum.

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Imports.—No reliable figures are available regarding imports into Western Kurdistan. The following table gives particulars of the principal articles imported, together with notes on the routes used and the usual methods of transport employed in various districts.

District.	Imported Articles.	Remarks.
Jazirah ibn Omar	Glass and Chinaware, Manufactured Stuffs such as cotton, wool, and silk ; sugar, tea, coffee and metals.	Imports chiefly come from Basrah *via* Baghdad, Mosul and Zakho. Articles are also imported from Mardin. Pack transport only is employed.
Nisibin, Mardin, Midiat, and Sor ..	As above	Imports used to come chiefly from Alexandretta *via* Aleppo. Trade with Mosul is increasing as Mosul prices are lower than those of Aleppo. The railway was used for transport from Aleppo ; arabanas and pack animals from Mosul.
Diarbekr	As above	Imports come either direct from Aleppo *via* Urfa, or are brought through Mardin from Aleppo or Mosul.
Mush	As above	Imports enter from the Black Sea ports *via* Van and Erzerum. Transport is almost entirely pack.

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Exports.—The following figures for exports both in pre-war days and at present are available. Figures given below are either in tons or in £ sterling. In the case of animals and skins the actual numbers are given. Where no figure is given it is not because exports in that particular article do not exist, but because no figures nor estimates are available.

Article.	District.					
	Diarbekr Sanjaq.		Mardin Qaza.		Sor Qaza.	
	Pre-war.	Present.	Pre-war.	Present.	Pre-war.	Present.
Ghi and butter	800 tons.	—	300 tons.	100 tons.	—	—
Copper	1,200 ,,	—	—	—	—	—
Rice	700 ,,	—	—	—	—	—
Wool and mohair	1,000 ,,	—	200 ,,	100 ,,	100 tons.	50 tons.
Almonds	300 ,,	—	—	—	—	—
Oak-galls	400 ,,	—	—	100 ,,	—	100 ,,
Grain	—	—	—	—	—	450 ,,
Dried fruits	—	—	—	300 ,,	—	100 ,,
Poplar wood	—	—	—	—	80,000 pieces.	80,000 pieces.
Sheep and goats	200,000 head.	—	—	—	—	—
Furs	£10,000	—	—	—	—	—
Silk	£33,000	—	—	—	—	—
Hides	£40,000	—	—	—	—	—

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Article.	District.					
	Midiat Qaza.		Nisibin Qaza.		Birijik Qaza.	
	Pre-war.	Present.	Pre-war.	Present.	Pre-war.	Present.
Exports—continued.						
Wool and mohair	134 tons.	—	—	—	—	—
Ghi	40 ,,	20 tons.	100 tons.	40 tons.	—	—
Oak-galls	70 ,,	—	—	—	—	—
Raisins	400 ,,	300 ,,	—	—	—	—
Grain	—	—	250 ,,	—	1,500 tons.	—
Grape syrup	1,500 ,,	1,200 ,,	—	—	—	—
Rice	—	—	200 ,,	—	—	—
Hides	3,000 ,,	500 ,,	—	—	—	—
Cotton	30 ,,	—	—	—	—	—
Fox skins	2,500 ,,	500 ,,	—	—	—	—
Marten skins	2,500 ,,	500 ,,	—	—	—	—
Almonds	15 ,,	—	—	—	—	—

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Particulars of Taxation.

Nature of Tax.	Amount.	Remarks.
Import Duty	11 per cent. *ad valorem*	Levied on all goods entering Turkish territory.
Export Duty	1 per cent. *ad valorem*	Levied on all goods leaving Turkish territory.
Transit Tax	1 per cent. *ad valorem*	Levied on all goods passing through Turkish territory.
Tent and Hut Tax	50 piastres per annum	Farmed. Levied wherever possible on both nomad and settled population. Powerful and inacessible tribes escape taxation.
Land Tax	One fifth to one tenth of total produce.	Farmed. There is plenty of scope for bribery and evasion. The amount levied varies according to whether the lands are irrigated and also according to whether the irrigation rights belong to the Government. Rent charged for the use of Crown lands is a matter of arrangement between the tenant and the department concerned.
Mineral Royalty	5 to 15 per cent. *ad valorem* ..	This does not produce a large amount.
Domestic Animals Tax	—	Levied on sheep and cattle at so much per head.
Tobacco Royalty	—	Farmed out to the Regie.
Local Taxes	—	It is usual for local products to pay a certain percentage *ad valorem* on entering a market town for sale.
Miscellaneous Taxes	—	There are other taxes on local industries and immovable property. Also the postage and telegraph service are State-owned and administered.

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Banking.—Banks exist at the following centres, where every description of banking business is transacted:—

Birijik	...	The Imperial Ottoman Bank.
Diarbekr	...	,, ,, ,, ,,
Kharput	...	,, ,, ,, ,,
Mosul ...	...	The Eastern Bank.
		The Imperial Ottoman Bank.
Urfa ...	...	,, ,, ,, ,,

The Imperial Ottoman Bank is the State bank of Turkey, but it is financed by French and British capitalists. The Eastern Bank is a comparatively new institution, which is financed by British capital.

In districts where there is no bank the position of banker is taken by the local "Sarraf," or money-changer. He is the life and soul of all trade. His functions are to fix the foreign rate of exchange in his own district; to determine the local rate of exchange between Turkish gold, silver, nickel and paper; to act as a bill discounter and banker. Of all these duties that of bill discounter is the most important, as without this facility no trade whatsoever could be carried on. It is neither safe nor cheap to carry bullion about in Kurdistan.

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Supplies.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Timber—Fuel.		Rice.		Fruits (dried).		Sheep and Goats.	
	Total.	Available for Military Use.	Total.	Available for Military Use.	Total.	Available for Military Use.	Total.	Available for Military Use.	Total.	Available for Military Use.	Total.	Available for Military Use.
	Tons Annually.	Tons Annually.	Tons Annually.	Tons Annually.			Tons.	Tons.	Tons Annually.	Tons Annually.	Head.	Head.
Midiat Qaza ..	12,000	1,000	6,000	500	Oak and Brushwood unlimited.		Nil.	Nil.	800	400	150,000	50,000
Sor Qaza ..	7,000	1,000	3,500	500	Two Million Poplar Trees.		Nil.	Nil.	500	300	15,000	5,000
Derek Qaza ..	6,000	2,000	3,000	750	100,000 tons of railway fuel.		500	Nil.	500	300	20,000	7,000
Nisibin Qaza ..	10,000	3,500	5,000	1,500	Scarce.		1,000	500	—	—	25,000	8,000
Jazirah ibn Omar Qaza.	6,000	1,000	3,000	500	Brushwood unlimited.		—	—	300	100	25,000	8,000
Mush Area ..	No supplies of any description are now available for military use, owing to the devastation caused by the war.											

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CHAPTER V.

ETHNOGRAPHY.

Population.—Any attempts to gauge the statistical composition and numbers of the population in Western Kurdistan must of necessity be merely tentative. Here, as elsewhere in Anatolia, the stress of war has affected the population, and the hostility of the Nationalists has prevented the collection of any ethnographic information since 1919.

In pre-war days the Moslem population of Diarbekr vilayet was estimated at 275,000. A British officer, who visited this area in 1919, though reporting the population was greatly reduced in proportion to its 1914 numbers, calculated the population of Mardin Sanjaq alone as 200,000.

To compile the first of the following tables a compromise has been effected, taking into consideration every source of information which is available. Allowances have been made for the ravages of war and massacre in the various districts, and also for the shifting of the population brought about by the same causes. It must be understood that all figures are approximate; it is believed, however, that the following table represents the true state of the population better than any statistics previously published.

In the second table will be found a detailed analysis of the Christians in the Sanjaq of Diarbekr. This table was compiled by a British officer who was on the spot during 1919.

Throughout this report Yezidis and Kizilbashis are regarded as Kurds for purposes of classification.

Races and Characteristics.—(*a*) *Kurds.*—The Kurds are essentially a mountain people and, like all such, have cherished throughout the ages a fierce passion for personal liberty and for independence of Government restraint. In the debatable border strip in the south of Western Kurdistan they have maintained their supremacy over the Arabs in the hilly outliers, which project into the Iraq plain.

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Table showing details of the population of Western Kurdistan.

Vilayet.	Sanjaq.	Kurds.	Arabs.	Turks.	Chechens.	Armenians.	Syrians.	Chaldeans.	Total.	Grand Total.
Diarbekr ..	Diarbekr ..	100,000	5,000	7,000	—	14,000	2,500	1,200	129,700	—
	Arghana ..	80,000	—	2,000	—	5,000	—	—	87,000	—
	Mardin ..	100,000	20,000	3,000	1,000	1,000	5,000	1,000	131,000	347,700
Bitlis ..	Mush (part)	20,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	20,000	20,000
Kharput ..	Kharput(part)	25,000	—	2,000	—	15,000	—	—	42,000	42,000
Aleppo ..	Urfa.. ..	25,000	30,000	7,000	—	20,000	—	—	82,000	82,000
	Totals ..	350,000	55,000	21,000	1,000	55,000	7,500	2,200	491,700	491,700

Table showing details of the Christians in the Diarbekr Sanjaq.

	Diarbekr.				District.					
	Pre-war.		Present.		Pre-war.			Present.		
	Houses.	Population.	Houses.	Population.	Villages.	Houses.	Population.	Villages.	Houses.	Population.
Armenian	2,150	27,500	320	2,200	166	15,825	116,040	—	280	11,853
Syrian Jacobite ..	400	2,500	300	1,600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syrian Catholics ..	65	330	—	274	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chaldeans	300	2,100	200	1,072	9	150	900	—	30	160
Greek	59	450	—	300	3	?	2,000	1	?	1,500
Totals	2,974	32,880	820	5,446	178	15,975	118,940	1	310	13,513

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The Kurdish race is divided against itself in the matter of language and religion. To the east of a line draw from Ezerum to Diarbekr, Kurmanji, a mixture of Kurdish and Persian, is spoken; to the west of the same line, Zaza, a mixture of Kurdish and Armenian, is the adopted tongue. The Yezidis possess not only a dialect but also a religion of their own. The Kizilbash Kurds possess a creed which appears to be a kind of attenuated Islamism.

The Kurd, as a guerilla fighter amongst his native hills, has few peers. His favourite weapon is the rifle; for this reason, and because he possesses no in-fighting weapon except the short dagger, and, above all, because he lacks the requisite courage to face cold steel, he dislikes close quarters. A campaign against a Kurdish tribe is chiefly a question of excellence in sniping.

The tribal system amongst the Kurds has been adequately described in the Military Report on Mesopotamia (Iraq), Area No. 9 (Central Kurdistan).

(*b*) *Arabs.*—The Arabs of this area are chiefly nomads and traders; their characteristics are too well known to require further description.

(*c*) *Turks.*—The Turkish population in Western Kurdistan is very small. It must be noted that in the preceding tables those members of the population who habitually use the Turkish language have been classified under the heading Turks; irrespective of their possession of Ottoman or other blood.

Practically all government positions are held by Turks or Arabs. The army is mainly officered by Ottoman Turks, whilst, owing to the demobilization of all former Ottoman subjects (but now subjects of another state, brought into being by the Treaty of Sèvres), the rank and file have become to all intents and purposes Turkish.

The Turkish population is, therefore, an unstable element. Every Turk is animated by the same desire—to amass as quickly as possible a sufficiency to return in comfort to his home in Western Anatolia.

(*d*) *Armenians.*—The Armenians are found in the Aleppo, Diarbekr and Kharput vilayets as agriculturalists, traders, bankers, and artisans. Their numbers have been tremendously reduced during the war, and many have since withdrawn to Adana. Those that remain are now forbidden by law to emigrate. They are generally more intelligent and better educated than

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their Muhammadan or Christian neighbours, but spoil all their good qualities by a superfluity of low cunning. They are excellent men of business, and it is commonly said that a Jew cannot get his living in Armenia. Though timid and poor fighters against odds, the Armenians have proved that they are as cruel and ruthless in revenge as their Turkish persecutors. This trait also mitigates against the popularity of any plan which has for its object the resettlement of an Armenian population in Western Kurdistan.

At the present time the Turkish Nationalists are gaining support among the Kurds by taking up an anti-Armenian attitude. This is easily understood when it is considered that many of the tribesmen and townsmen alike are now enjoying the undisturbed possession of property which was originally Armenian.

(*e*) *Chechens and Yezidis.*—These have been adequately described in the Military Report on Mesopotamia (Iraq), Area No. 1 (Northern Jazirah).

(*f*) *Syrians.*—The Syrians, who are all Christians, are found scattered about in the Diarbekr, Mardin and Midiat districts. Before the war, Midiat was almost entirely a Syrian town. It is now destroyed. Azekh has been the stronghold of the Syrians throughout troublous times; refugees from all districts congregated there, and offered a successful resistance to their would-be plunderers. In Diarbekr, the Syrian Jacobites enjoyed a measure of protection unknown to the other Christian sects.

The Syrians are employed both in trade and agriculture. Wherever found they are quiet and timid, desirous of living on good terms with their Muhammadan neighbours. The defence of Azekh was the act of desperate men.

In Diarbekr and Mardin the Syrians speak the local languages; in Midiat they speak Syriac.

Religions.—Within the limits of Western Kurdistan three religions flourish: Islam, Christianity, and the Faith of the Yezidis. Among the Moslems the Sunni creed reigns supreme; among the Christians every little nationality has its own church, and this lack of unity has done much to deliver the Christians into the hands of their Moslem neighbours. The Yezidis alone are untroubled by schisms.

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(*a*) *Islam.*—Owing to the recent massacres the Muhammadans now number at least 80 per cent. of the total population, and that in an area which was at one time a stronghold of Christianity. They are Kurds, Arabs, or Turks. Of these the most fanatical are the Kurds, although fanaticism, apart from politics, is practically unknown. The Turks appear to have played on the feelings of the Kurds in inciting them to massacre their Christian neighbours.

The chief point in which Islam differs from Christianity is that it denies the divinity of Christ, but admits both Christ and Muhammad to the circle of the prophets. The last prophet to appear on the earth ranks as the most important. The principle of God as Unity is insisted on as opposed to the Christian doctrine of the Trinity.

The Resurrection, the Last Judgment, Paradise and Hell, all find their places in the Koran. The use of alcohol is prohibited, cleanliness is insisted upon, and the position of woman is estimated far higher than has come to be in practice among the Moslems. A principle of Islam, which the Christians and pagans of the East have had much cause to rue, is that of conversion to Islam by force, if gentler measures fail.

The acts of worship enjoined by Islam are five in number: (*a*) the recital of the creed; (*b*) observance of the five daily prayers; (*c*) fast in the month of Ramadan; (*d*) giving of alms; (*e*) the pilgrimage to Mecca.

The two chief denominations of Islam are the Sunni and the Shiah sects. All the Muhammadans of Western Kurdistan are Sunnis. The division between Sunni and Shiah is based primarily on a political and not on a religious theory. The Sunnis regard as legitimate successors of the prophet the first three Caliphs, who ruled as heads of the Moslem community, whereas the Shiahs hold that they and all the Caliphs who followed them were usurpers, the rightful succession lying with Ali, the cousin and son-in-law of the prophet, and with Ali's descendants. Ali and his sons Hasan and Husain, each of whom came to a violent end, are venerated by the Shiahs with a passion equal to that which they exhibit for Muhammad himself.

To the Sunnis the Caliphate, or headship of the Moslem world, now belongs to the Sultans of Turkey. It remains to be seen what will be their attitude towards the Sharif

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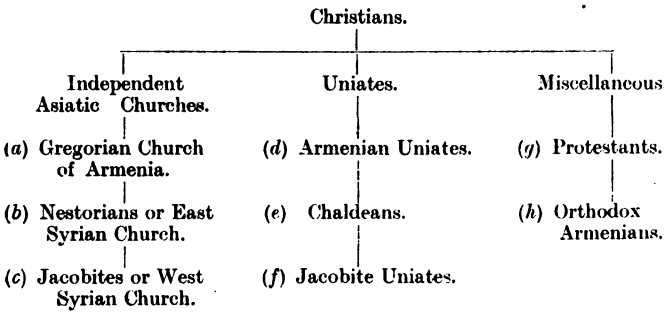
of Mecca, who has in recent years assumed control of the Holy Places. The Sunnis profess as unquestioning belief in the Koran and in the accepted tradition, which is a record of the sayings and doings of the Prophet, and which serves as a supplement to the Koran. On this basis various systems of Sunni law have arisen, the differences between which are merely trifling.

As regards the relations of the Muhammadans with the other inhabitants of Western Kurdistan there is no obstacle on religious grounds to close fraternization. Politics, however, have intervened, and on this account Muhammadans have been incited to kill Christians. So much blood has been spilt that reconciliation now appears extremely difficult. As an example that it is politics and not religion which lay behind the late massacres, it is only necessary to note how badly the Armenians suffered in Diarbekr, and how well the Syrian Jacobites escaped. Yet both are Christians. Even now, Muhammadans, Christians and Yezidis are in some cases living side by side, as in the case of the Haverki.

The chief obstacle in the way of a complete reconciliation is the Armenian question. No Kurd will consent to live under the rule of an Armenian, and after past experiences it is very improbable that many Armenians will be willing to live under Kurdish domination. With the Chaldeans, Syrians and Jacobites it should not be difficult to arrive at a settlement agreeable to all parties.

(*b*) *Christianity.*—The Christians of Iraq may be divided into three groups, which in turn are split up into various sects. The following diagram illustrates these divisions:—



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Until the comparatively recent advent of Roman Catholic and Protestant missionaries into Asia Minor and Iraq, the independent Asiatic Churches, excepting the Greek Orthodox Church, were practically the only Christians within these countries, and for the most part were untroubled by schisms. The Uniate sects are seceders from their respective independent churches. Similarly Protestants consist of a small number of converts (mostly Presbyterians, Congregationalists and Baptists) from the various churches, being mainly the result of proselytism by American missionaries. The Uniate churches acknowledge the spiritual supremacy of the Pope, but differ from Rome and one another in ritual, liturgy, ecclesiastical laws and customs.

The following sects are represented in Western Kurdistan:—

(*a*) *Gregorian Church of Armenia.*—Members of this Church, which is the national Church of Armenia, are scattered throughout the whole of Western Kurdistan. Their chief Patriarch resides at Echmiadzin near Erivan, whilst the second in importance lives at Constantinople. They are Monophysites.

(*c*) *Jacobites or West Syrians.*—Followers of this persuasion are to be found in the Diarbekr vilayet with a particularly strong community in the Midiat district. They profess the Monophysite doctrine. Their Patriarch (called the Patriarch of Antioch), Ignatius Elia III (*see* "Personalities," Chapter VII), resides at Dair Zaferan, near Mardin, whilst the first bishop has his see at Mosul.

(*d*) *Armenian Uniates.*—This sect forms but a very small proportion of the Armenian people. Their stronghold, however, is in Western Kurdistan, and they have an archbishop who resides at Mardin. As their name implies they are in communion with Rome.

(*f*) *Jacobite Uniates.*—The community in the area under report is found at Diarbekr. Their Patriarch resides at Baghdad and they have a bishop at Mosul. Jacobite Uniates, who are sometimes referred to as West Syrian Uniates or Syrian Catholics, are in communion with Rome.

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(*h*) *Orthodox Armenians.*—These follow the Greek Orthodox Church, and are represented in Western Kurdistan by a very small community at Diarbekr.

(*c*) *Religion of the Yezidis.*—For the full description of this religion *see* Military Report on Mesopotamia (Iraq), Area No. 1 (Northern Jazirah).

Languages.—Every race in Western Kurdistan possesses a language peculiar to itself.

Arabic is spoken south of a line running from Zakho–Nisibin–Mardin–Urfa–Birijik. The lower sedentary Kurdish tribes have largely adopted the language of their Arab neighbours, and in places where this adoption is not complete, as for instance in the Jabal Sinjar, there is no difficulty in finding Arabic-speaking persons in the community.

Kurdish is spoken north of a line running from Zakho–Nisibin–Mardin–Urfa–Birijik. Within this area Arabic is practically unknown. Besides Kurdish only Turkish is spoken to any great extent.

Turkish is the language of the officials, of a large part of the army, and of those Armenians resident in the towns. This is the medium of official correspondence.

Armenians all possess a knowledge of their own tongue. In the towns they also speak Turkish; in the village they usually speak either Turkish or Kurdish in addition to Armenian. The practice, which has come into vogue among the Kurds since the Armenian massacres, of taking servants from among the Armenian widows and orphans has done much to spread a knowledge of Kurdish among the surviving Armenians.

Syriac is spoken in some of the scattered village communities. In the village of Azekh, for example, there are many persons who know no other tongue. Syriac speaking persons are not numerous to warrant the employment of interpreters solely for this language.

Chaldean is used in the Chaldean churches.

The Yezidis speak a Kurdish dialect, but with an ordinary knowledge of Kurdish or Arabic it is possible to carry on business in the Sinjar.

Interpreters.—From the above considerations, a force operating in Western Kurdistan should be accompanied by Kurdish, Arabic and Turkish interpreters. These can easily be obtained from Baghdad and Mosul in large numbers.

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CHAPTER VI.

TRIBES.

General.—The tribes of Western Kurdistan are predominantly Kurdish in race and differ in no general essentials from similar tribes described in the Military Report on Mesopotamia (Iraq), Area 9 (Central Kurdistan). The geographical configuration of the district with its resultant variation in climate has reacted on the physical life of the people, and effected a rough division of the tribes into sedentary and nomadic. The latter, owing to their seasonal changes of habitat, form the most restless part of the population, but while, as a general rule, it is from the wandering tribes that trouble is to be expected, the sedentary tribes of Western Kurdistan do not differ much from their nomadic tribesmen in this respect since contact with western civilization in Constantinople and Aleppo has stirred the immemorial independence of the Kurd of these regions to a certain national consciousness. This expresses itself in resentment at Turkish suzerainty, and indicates continuous tribal trouble until a satisfactory *modus vivendi* is reached by the Kurds.

Tribal Population and Armed Forces.—The total tribal population of Western Kurdistan is roughly computed at 300,000, *i.e.*, 60,000 families, or 120,000 men capable of bearing arms. The number of serviceable rifles is calculated at 35,000.

Arms and Ammunition.—The Kurd lays great value on the possession of a small-bore rifle. Before the war the commonest type in Western Kurdistan was the Martini, which was obtained from a factory in Sulaimani and from the European markets. During the war the Turks attempted to raise tribal auxiliaries, and for this purpose issued numerous Mausers and ammunition. It is needless to say that the Kurds accepted the rifles and used them not infrequently against the donor. Another source of supply during the war was from refugees fleeing before the Russian advance on Erzerum. After the armistice the Turks, compelled by the Treaty of Sèvres to hand over all surplus armament, were glad to sell as many rifles as possible at a low price to the tribes.

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At present the most popular rifle amongst the Kurds is the Mauser service rifle. Ammunition for this is most easily obtainable from Turkish military towns, especially if the Turks have any ulterior motives in view. Russian and Greek rifles also exist, but ammunition for these is difficult to come by. The quantity of Mauser ammunition available varies from 100 to 400 rounds per rifle. Generally speaking the tribe on good terms with the local authorities never has to complain of a lack of ammunition.

Diabekr, Mardin, Jazirah ibn Omar and Nisibin are all possibly supply centres of both rifles and ammunition. It seems unlikely in their present straits that the Turks will surrender entirely the idea of forming tribal militias. For this reason the supply of rifles and S.A.A. to the tribes is not likely to diminish.

Fighting Characteristics and Tactics.—The fighting characteristics and tactics of Kurdish tribes have been adequately discussed in the Military Report on Mesopotamia (Iraq), Area No. 10 (South Kurdistan). It has been established that aeroplanes are of little offensive use against tribal gatherings in the Kurdish hills. Scrub, oak and the jumbled nature of the hill surfaces preclude the existence of good targets. Similarly this kind of terrain also militates against the utiliy of aeroplanes for reconnaissance work.

Tribes in relation to possible Centres of Disturbance.—(i) *Jazirah ibn Omar.*—Around Jazirah ibn Omar the only tribes of any importance belong to the Miran Confederation. The Turkish authorities, imbued with hazy but grandiose ideas of a march on Mosul in 1919-20, made strenuous efforts to win over the various chiefs to their side. As the Miran are absolutely dependant both for their supplies and passage over the river to and from their summer quarters on Jazirah ibn Omar, there has never been any course open but friendship to the authorities in possession of that town. The present paramount Chief of the Miran, Naif Beg, has not committed any hostile act against the Iraq Government, but has been active in robbing kelleks of Iraqis proceeding from Zakho to Mosul. In the event of an advance on Jazirah ibn Omar from the south, the Miran would probably throw in its lot primarily with the Turks, but would change sides as soon as that town was occupied.

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(ii) *Mardin and Nisibin.*—The tribes in this area have been widely canvassed to provide Milice or Militia. The movement met with considerable success as the later formation of Chattas or irregular troops. The discipline of these troops is bad; the organization is slight and their fighting qualities little superior to those of the untrained tribesmen. The power of tribal resistance in this area has also been impaired by the coercive methods adopted by the Turks in recruiting. In case it should be necessary to involve the Turkish authorities in difficulties, the Haverki and Dakshori would prove the most suitable agents.

(iii) *Veranshehr and Ras al Ain.*—Mahmud Bey and the other sons of Ibrahim Pasha of the Milli control the tribal situation in this area. At the moment the Milli are pro-French and ani-Turkish.

Political Attitude.—The present political attitude of tribes in Western Kurdistan is still indefinite. During 1919 the Turks favoured the establishment of committees to propagate the idea of an independent Kurdistan. Finding that this movement was becoming hostile to themselves as well as to the Christian powers, and also seeing that a fresh massacre of the remaining Christians was the probable outcome of the activities of these committees, the Turkish Government had them all closed down. Diarbekr and Mardin were the chief centres of this movement. Since the closing of the committees very little has been heard of the Kurdish Nationalist movement, Haji Ahmad Agha (*see* " Personalities," Chapter VII), is said to be an ardent Nationalist, but he can do nothing by himself. Mahmud Bey (*see* " Personalities," Chapter VII), of the Milli, is one of the candidates for the first presidency of the Kurdish State if this ever materializes. His family is the second in rank of the ruling houses of Kurdistan, and it is the first in present power and influence. The only rivals are the Bedr Khans. Recently, however, Mahmud Bey appears to have quarrelled with the Turks and to have thrown in his lot with the French.

The remaining tribes only have a hazy conception of Nationalism. If by Nationalism is meant a wide sort of autonomy where each chief controls his own district without hindrance and without paying taxes to any outside authority, then such men as Izzat ud Din of the Dakshuri would be ardent Nationalists.

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During the last twelve months the Turks have enormously extended their power and influence over the tribes. This has been done by gifts of arms to those tribes that they can trust and by military expeditions against those that are impatient of authority. The confederation of Ali Batti has been broken in the field, and the Chief has been replaced by Hajo, a recent prisoner at Kharput who may at least be expected to be friendly for a few months. Abdul Karim of Challek has been beaten in the field. Abdul Qadir al Darogh of the Karagaj is still in prison at Diarbekr, and his successor, Kasab Shaikho, is a man extremely hostile to any foreign interference in Kurdistan.

The French have obtained so far only the friendship of the Milli. This is due to the fact that the Kurds consider that the French identified themselves with the cause of the Armenians, and will support the latter in projects of revenge. Also it appears that Moslems are dissatisfied with the French administration in Syria.

After the armistice the prospects of the British were bright, and it seemed that their advent would normally have been welcomed by a large number of Kurds, including probably Mahmud Bey of the Milli. But a change in the state of affairs is attributable to the following causes:—

(*a*) Turkish propaganda.

(*b*) The failure of the British to occupy Jazirah ibn Omar after the armistice when so many rumours were going about concerning the approaching occupation.

Punitive Measures.—Western Kurdistan is a mountainous district and experience has shown that in his native hills it is almost impossible to induce the Kurd to stand and fight a decisive action. As in Southern and Central Kurdistan, a rising in this area is unlikely to take the form of spontaneous or combined effort on a large scale by the tribesmen themselves, but would be more in the nature of discontented Aghas, determined to defy the Government, ordering their retainers to render support. A rough analogy can be made between the tribal Kurds of this area and the peasants of feudal England, who, in return for protection and a means of livelihood, followed their lord's commands in all his private quarrels. It is then, from the point of view of such a rising against an established government that some of the more important punitive measures can be briefly considered.

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(1) Use of the larger towns as bases for operations into hostile territory in order to destroy the villages and crops of the recalcitrant tribesmen. This method, however, has one serious drawback, inasmuch as it hits the industrial class, viz., the Aghawats' retainers, whilst the Aghas, who are solely to blame, remain little affected.

(2) To seize every means of discrediting the Aghas in the eyes of their followers.

(3) To maintain one or two completely equipped mobile striking forces at such strategic points as Jazirah ibn Omar and Mardin. The Turks have small garrisons in all the chief towns, but this has not the same practical utility where British and Indian troops are concerned.

Economic measures of repression, if used alone, are not likely to be of much avail against the tribes. They are all self-supporting or get what they lack by barter from their neighbours. The occupation of strategic points and the prohibition of traffic is, therefore, not likely to succeed in reducing a tribe to submission. There is one exception to this: the occupation of Jazirah would cut off the Miran from their winter habitat, and would deprive the tribes of all agricultural produce. Their only remedy would be to barter their herds for grain among the Shernakh, Goyan and neighbouring tribes. This could probably not be done on a sufficiently large scale, and the Miran would be forced to submit to any terms imposed in return for permission to visit their winter lands.

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Tribal Lists.

In view of the fact that very little is known regarding many of the tribes in Western Kurdistan, it has seemed better not to arrange all the tribes in alphabetical order, but to group many of the smaller ones together according to fixed geographical areas. This has been done so that by referring to any desired area, it is possible, by looking at the meagre details for several individual tribes, to get a fair idea of the tribes in the area as a whole. This, however, has not been done in the case of some of the larger tribes and confederations, which remain under their own headings with the geographical areas in alphabetical order.

In case it is necessary to refer to a small individual section or tribe by name, a complete list of sections and tribes is shown in the index, together with particulars of the area, tribe or confederation under which they are to be found.

Owing to the recognized inaccuracy of pre-war intelligence regarding Kurdish tribes, no tribe has been included which has not been mentioned either during or subsequent to the war.

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Section, Tribe or Confederation.	*Geographical Area, Tribe or Confederation.*	*Page*
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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
BERAZIEH CONFEDERATION.	..	Around Seruj (Sanjaq of Urfa).	8,200
Tribes.			
Alidinli	..	.. ..	700
Didan	..	.. ..	300
Dinan	Muhammad ibn Sulaiman.	Around Seruj to the east and north. Muhammad lives at Bez Tepeh, 4 miles north-east of Seruj.	1,000
Karagaj	..	.. ..	500
Keythan	..	.. ..	700
Mafan	..	.. ..	700
Mir	..	.. ..	1,000
Okian	..	.. ..	700
Pijan	Muslim Beg ibn Hamid Musto (Nazli Mizar).	West of Seruj	800
	Hammo al Abdo (Abamor).		
Shadadan	..	.. ..	700
Shaikhan	Shaikh Nol ..	.. ..	600
Zerwan	Mustapha al Malik (Tel Khajib).	South of Seruj. Chief lives 7 miles to the south.	500
Badarli	Bekir Bey ..	20 miles north of Urfa ..	..

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	Notes.
..	..	?	?	?	The tradition of the tribes is that they hail from Lake Van, whence they came during a famine year. They are now partly Arabicized, and many wear Arab clothes and speak Arabic. They are partly nomadic, partly semi-nomadic and partly sedentary. They have rather a bad reputation for freebooting, but are industrious and intelligent. The date of their arrival at Seruj is unknown.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary in fifty villages.
..	..	..	..	..	Probably belong to the same Anatolian stock as the main Karagaj.
..	..	..	..	..	The two chiefs are rivals and the tribe is divided internally. Chief villages are : Usman, Maghribi, Karaba, Khebr, Haji Keui and Haidar Ahmad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	250			

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Dakshuri	Izzat-ud-Din, who lives at Kasri, is the most powerful.	South of the Tigris between the Surgichi and the Haverki.	5,400
Sections.			
Arnas	Muhammad Salih	.. ..	500
Gulika	Salih ibn Sarokha	.. ..	300
Habesbani ..	Izzat-ud-Din ..	.. ..	700
Hasan Kaif ..	Abib ibn Sadullah	In the village of Hasan Kaif.	800
Hassar	Ismail	.. ..	750
Karjaus	Ibrahim Agha ..	.. ..	1,200
Rahman	Muhammad Agha	On both banks of Tigris within the limits of the Dakshuri.	600
Shamikha ..	Rashid Agha ..	.. ..	600

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	3,000	1,700	1,300	Sedentary. Agricultural and pastoral. *Internal cohesion.*—The Habesbani, Karjaus and Rahman sections are solid for Izzat-ud-Din. These can produce 1,500 rifles of which 800 are modern. The remaining sections are independent. *External relations.*—Izzat-ud-Din opposes his combination of tribes to the Haverki. He is also allied to one section of the Surgichi in the Qaza of Sor. The tribe is turbulent and has been out against the Turks.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, living in 5 villages. Independent of Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, living in 5 villages. Independent of Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	500	300	200	Sedentary, living in 12 villages. Directly dependent on Izzat-ud-Din. Good fighters and very turbulent.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, living in Hasan Kaif and two other villages. Independent of Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, living in 15 villages. Independent of Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	..	650	..	Sedentary, in 11 villages. Under Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	..	350	..	Sedentary, in 8 villages. Under Izzat-ud-Din.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, in 7 villages. Under Izzat-ud-Din.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
DEREK QAZA ..	..	In the Qaza of Derek ..	3,94
Tribes.			
Atraf-i-Shahr ..	Several Mukhtars	In the vicinity of Derek to the south.	800
Chia Mazi ..	No headman. Each village has its Mukhtar.	On the Chia Mazi Dagh to the east of Derek.	240
Dasht-i-Grour ..	Darwish Beg .. Mahmud Beg.	North of the Mardin-Derek road.	900
Derek Town ..	..	The town of Derek ..	400
Laif	Small Mukhtars ..	On the plain south of the Mazi Dagh.	250
Mahali	Several Mukhtars	In the hills between Chia Mazi and Qarajah Dagh.	400
Metini	Haji Buz, Ahmad, Abdul Karim, Ali Dali.	In the hills to the west of the Diarbekr-Derek road.	500
Surikan Alias Bari	Several Mukhtars	On the plain south of Derek.	450

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	..	400	1,500	There are seven tribes with 125 villages in the Qaza, besides Derek Town. The population is exclusively Kurdish; the Christians have been annihilated.
..	..	380	70	310	Sedentary. *Internal cohesion.*—Very loose. Have lost tribal organization. 25 villages, of which the majority belong to Derek notables.
..	..	200	20	180	Pastoral. Subsist by keeping sheep and collecting oak-galls. Soil is stony and poor. *External relations.*—Robbers, on bad terms with their neighbours. Have suffered much during the war.
..	..	500	100	400	Possess 30 villages. Sedentary and agricultural. Soil fertile. *Internal cohesion.*—Each village has its own Mukhtar and the two chiefs named have not much control over the tribe. *External relations.*—Loosely connected with the Milli Confederation.
..	..	50	20	30	—
..	..	100	40	60	Sedentary and agricultural. 8 villages in Derek and 14 villages in addition in the Mardin Qaza.
..	..	250	50	200	Sedentary and semi-nomad. The latter in summer move up the eastern slopes of the Qarajah Dagh. Agricultural and pastoral. Rice is chief crop. *Origin.*—Zaza Kurds of the Milli Confederation who originally came from Erzerum fourteen generations ago.
..	..	300	50	250	Semi-nomadic. Pastoral. 28 villages in Derek and 5 villages in the Diarbekr Qaza. *External relations.*—The tribe takes its lead from the Milli.
..	..	200	50	150	Sedentary. *Internal cohesion.*—Very loose. Have lost tribal organization. *External relations.*—Claimed by Mahmud Beg as part of the Milli.

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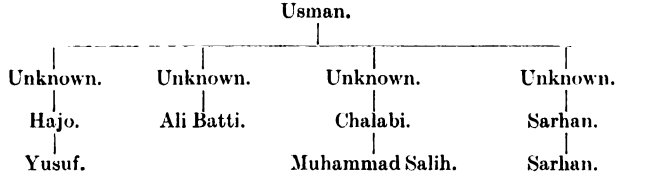
The Haverki.

The Haverki group consists of a collection of Kurdish tribes living in the east of the Qaza of Midiat and in the west of the Qaza of Jazirah ibn Omar. The tribesmen are principally Sunni, but also include some Jacobite Christians and Yezidis.

The Haverki fall into two large divisions: the first, consisting of the Alika, Dermamuka, Muzezak, Saliha and Saiyida sections, together with the Christian village of Azekh, are all under the overlordship of the members of the family of Usman Agha; the second consists of the Arabi, Beravi, Dumana and Qaza Alika sections, which are each under their own individual aghas.

The family of Usman Agha is descended as follows:—



This family has been engaged in constant disputes with the Turks. In 1916 Hajo, Chalabi and Sarhan were removed from Midiat and imprisoned in Kharput. Ali Batti, with the sons of the three captives, was left to govern the tribe. But things went from bad to worse. Ali Batti raided Nisibin, held a regimental commander to ransom, and attempted to seize the government of Midiat. Troops were sent against him, the captives were released, Ali Batti was killed and Hajo and Chalabi installed in his place. In passing it should be noted that Ali Batti was of an exceedingly quarrelsome nature. He also carried on campaigns against the Dakshuri under Izzat ud Din Agha and against Abdul Karim of Challek.

Among the aghas who do not admit the overlordship of the above family, Abdul Karim ibn Ali Rammo stands out most prominently. He, too, is of a predatory nature. Early in 1919 he raided a Turkish dump at

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Kerboran, and with his father was implicated in the massacre of many Christians. He has warred with Ali Batti, and in 1920 had a Turkish expedition sent against him. He was compelled to submit owing to the defection of his tribesmen of Challek, who were detached from his cause by Turkish intrigues.

The position of the Christians in this area is worthy of special notice. Abdul Karim and the other independent aghas of the Haverki were considerably anti-Christian in their policy. Ali Batti, on the other hand, protected his Christians. The result has been that all Christians in the neighbourhood have gathered together in Azekh, a Jacobite Christian village under the control of Ali Batti. Here they have successfully defended themselves against the hostile tribes, and Ali Batti made their cause the reason of his quarrel with Abdul Karim.

In addition to the major portion of the Haverki, the descendants of Usman Agha control the Sarhan, Solkan and Chomar tribes of Midiat, which have nothing to do with the Haverki.

The future of the Haverki is doubtful. None of the present chiefs have reason to love the Turks, but they certainly do owe their restoration to the action of the government. The latest news to hand states that Hajo and Chalabi are quarrelling, but that they have both agreed to raise Milice forces among their tribesmen.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
HAVERKI	No paramount chief. Hajo and Chalabi, cousins of the late Ali Batti, are the most important. Abdul Karim ibn Ali Rammo is an important chief not under control of the first two.	In the Qazas of Midiat and Jazirah. Boundaries:—*North:* The Tigris between Derhaf and Til. *East:* The Tigris between Til and Azekh. *South:* The Nisibin-Jazirah road *via* Aznaur. *West:* The Dakshuri and a line due south through Midiat.	8,420
Sections.			
Alika	Hutto Husain ibn Omar. Usman ibn Salih.	.. ..	600
Azekh	..	.. ..	400
Dermamuka ..	Hasan Hama Salih	.. ..	500
Muzezak	Hajo	Around the village of Muzeza.	1,000
Saiyida	Khalil Zadeh ibn Saiyid Ahmad.	.. ..	720
Saliha	Ramazan ibn Ismail.	.. ..	400
All the above sections form a group under the direct control of Hajo and Chalabi.		The southern portion of the Haverki area. Their strongholds are all in the Jabal Tur.	3,420

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
300	3,700	4,000	2,000	2,000	Sunni. Sedentary. Agricultural and pastoral. Cereals, grapes and sheep. *Fighting power.*—Good fighters. Best leaders:—the late Ali Batti and Abdul Karim. Bold and not afraid of raiding towns. In their own country conduct a guerilla warfare against troops. Are now receiving fresh supplies of ammunition from Nisibin as being Milice troops. *Politics.*—The tribe as a whole is anti-Turkish. All members of the chief ruling family have been in a Turkish prison. They were released because their successor was even more anti-Turkish. Hajo and Chalabi are at present on passable terms with the government. Abdul Karim has recently been punished. The Aghas desire no government—only tribal independence. *Internal cohesion.*—Bad. Five sections are under one family, but Hajo and Chalabi are already quarrelling among themselves. The Arabi section are opponents of the previous combination. *External relations.*—Hostile to the Dakshuri under Izzat-ud-Din. *Military action.*—Very difficult. An advance from Midiat and Jazirah simultaneously into their country promises the best result.
..	..	..	..	..	15 villages.
..	..	200	..	..	1 village of Jacobite Christians.
..	..	..	..	..	2 villages out of 15 are Christian.
..	..	..	..	..	3 villages out of 12 are Yezidi.
..	..	..	..	..	10 villages.
..	..	..	..	..	6 villages.
200	2,000	2,200	1,200	1,000	General notes as for main tribe. Group includes a few Jacobite Christians and Yezidis.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Haverki—*continued.*			
Arabi	Abdul Karim ibn Ali Rammo.	Around Challek on the Tigris.	2,400
Beravi	Usman ibn Khalil	Around Deraf on the Tigris.	600
Dumana	Yusuf ibn Sulaiman	.. ..	700
Qaza Alika ..	Usman	.. ..	1,500

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
100	900	1,000	500	500	Some of the men make a living as kellekjis. Abdul Karim is hostile to Christians, to the Turks and to the group of the Haverki under Hajo and Chalabi. Turkish intrigues have turned the tribesmen against Abdul Karim.
..	250	250	150	100	12 villages.
..	250	250	100	150	12 villages of which 3 are Yezidi.
..	500	500	250	250	17 villages.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
JAZIRAH QAZA. *Tribes.*			
Aliki	Firkho ibn ? living at Dikiyah.	On the Alim Dagh ..	300
Baruma	No chief	Near the village of Babuka	50
Husainiyah ..	Mukhtars only ..	South of Jazirah Omar ..	400
Maman	Ali ibn Mamo (Zewik).	From south of Dashdikara to Zewik.	250
Omerka . ..	Khalil ibn Mejdin (Heddil).	Around Heddil and Fil ..	300

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	200	200	70	130	Sedentary. Agricultural. Also 3,000 sheep and a few pack horses. Cereals. *Fighting ability.*—Good fighters, with 60 to 70 rounds per rifle. *Internal cohesion.*—No internal cohesion. They fight one another. *External relations.*—Friendly with the Miran, but quarrel with the Maman and Haverki.
20	30	50	50	..	Sedentary in one village. *Fighting ability.*—A community of refugees and outlaws. Every man is a brigand with his life forfeited. *Internal cohesion.*—They hang together for mutual protection. *External relations.*—They are under no outside authority now, but used to acknowledge the overlordship of the Maman.
..	..	..	100	150	Sedentary and agricultural. Cereals and tobacco. Few sheep. *Fighting ability.*—Not fighters. *Internal cohesion.*—40 or 50 villages loosely knit together under their own Mukhtars. On good terms with one another. *External relations.*—Live peaceably under government. Are sometimes looted by the Jabal Tor tribes. Probably related to the tribe of the same name on left bank of Tigris.
50	100	150	50	100	Sedentary. 100 horses and 4,000 sheep. Cereals. *Fighting ability.*—Not good fighters. 100 rounds per rifle. *External relations.*—Hostile to all Christians.
20	380	400	200	200	Sedentary. Agricultural. Cereals and grapes. Also sheep. *Fighting ability.*—Good. Rifles from Jazirah ibn Omar and from the refugees from Van. *Internal cohesion.*—Bad. Continually fighting amongst themselves. *External relations.*—Often raid the Maman. The Turks can gather no taxes from them. They killed gendarmes sent to collect taxes in 1917.

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Mahalami.

A few years ago a certain Khalaf Bey, uncle of the present chiefs, was caught and executed by the Turks. Nevertheless Khalil Bey and Hasan Bey are Turkophile, but state that it is immaterial to them whether they are under a Turkish or Sharifian government, as both are Islamic.

The tribe, which is probably of Arab extraction and speaks bastard Arabic, has lost its tribal character. It is well off, perhaps more so than before the war. The chiefs, although they are the titular heads, wield little power outside the village of Kefr Howar. They are unpleasant people, independent and grasping.

History.—The tribe state that 350 years ago they were Christians. During a famine of corn they asked permission of the Patriarch to eat meat during Lent. The Patriarch refused and they became Moslems. The women wear red clothes and do not veil. They have recently received a considerable amount of mixed Arab stock. Another history is that they were originally the Bani Halal Arabs, and occupied the stretch of country south of Nisibin. Many years ago a seven years' famine split the tribe up, one section migrating to Tunis and the other, now the Mahalami, taking up their present quarters.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
MAHALAMI	Khalil Bey and his brother Hasan Bey, both living Kefr Howar.	In the plain south-west of Midiat.	2,500
Sections.			
Dasikan	..	On the Tur Abdin ..	900
Dorkan	..	On the Tur Abdin ..	120

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary in 23 villages. The chief crops are cereals and grapes. *Politics.*—Mildly Turkophile, but quite satisfied with any Muhammadan Government. *Internal cohesion.*—Bad. Each village has its own Mukhtar, while the nominal chiefs exercise very little control. Speak Arabic and are probably of Arab extraction.
..	..	..	..	..	A mixed tribe of Kurds, Yezidis and Christians.
..	..	..	..	..	Some Yezidis are included.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
MAMURET-AL-AZIZ, Sanjaq.			
Tribe.			
Abu Tahir ..	.. .. ..	South of Kharput ..	..

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	Notes.
..	..	..	..	..	A small tribe, numbers unknown. Said to be of Arab origin, but they speak Kurmanji.

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Milli Confederation.

The Milli Kurds state that the whole Kurdish race is divided into three sections: the Milli, the Zillan and the Baba Kurdi. From earliest times these three branches have been enemies and have waged war against each other.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, in the days of Sultan Mahmud, there were three great princes in the south-east of the Turkish Empire: Ayub Bey, great-grandfather of the present Chief of the Milli, ruled in the Jazirah; Muhammad Bey, the "Kur" Pasha of Rowanduz, was master of all the lands from the eastern frontier to Mosul; while Shaikh Sufuq was Chief of the Southern Badawin tribes. These chiefs lived in great state and constant war, and paid no heed to the Sultan at Constantinople or to the Wali at Baghdad. At last Government could disregard their activities no longer and the great Rashid Pasha was sent against them. Muhammad of Rowanduz was seized and killed, while Shaikh Sufuq and Ayub Bey were made prisoners and carried to Diarbekr, where they died. The Turks then became completely masters of the country.

Shortly after this, when war with Egypt broke out, Timawi Bey, Ayub Bey's successor as Chief of the Milli, joined the Egyptians and captured Mardin. He was, however, shortly afterwards killed in a skirmish, and on the re-establishment of Ottoman supremacy, the Milli tribe was reduced to abject poverty and misery, in which it remained until Mahmud, Timawi's son, grew up. After many vicissitudes the latter succeeded, with the grudging help of the Wali of Damascus, in driving back the Tai and Shammar, and collecting together the remnants of the tribe at Veranshehr. In a few years he attained considerable prosperity and power, and eventually had the hardihood to build a castle at Veranshehr. Omar Pasha, who was then Wali of Diarbekr, soon crushed this movement, burnt the castle and carried off Mahmud as a prisoner. Here he remained for some time, until, at the repeated petitions of his son, Ibrahim Pasha, he was released, only to die as the result of the hardships of his captivity.

Ibrahim then became head of the tribe, but as a result of his turbulence and robbery was soon seized and exiled by the Turkish Government. After six months or more he managed to escape, and making his way back to the tribal country, where he remained as an outlaw, he eventually patched up a peace with the Government.

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At the close of the Russo-Turkish war Ibrahim began to give signal proofs of his ability and gradually by his diplomacy built up the power and the strength of his tribe, gathering to him all the lesser shaikhs of the neighbouring tribes. Before long, under his sagacious rule, the Milli became stronger than they had ever been previously.

About this time Ibrahim, with some other Kurdish chiefs, was enlisted in the Hamidieh, and after a visit to Constantinople was given the rank of General, and the title of Pasha. His policy now grew bolder, and he was not only able to resist the Anizah and the Shammar, but to clear his districts of the worst of their parties. He made it his policy to protect the Christians and collected many of them in Veranshehr, where a thriving bazaar soon sprang up. It is estimated that during the large Armenian massacres previous to the Great War he saved some 10,000 Christian lives.

He made friends with the powerful Arab Jais tribe, while the Afadli, Baggarah, Sherahin and the Kurdish tribe of Chichihieh joined his confederacy; the Tai, Jubur, Anizah and Shammar becoming his mortal enemies. It was not long, however, before by his diplomacy he succeeded in winning over a large and important section of the Shammar under Shaikh Jarullah.

In 1904 a quarrel with the Karagaj led to a conflict with the Turkish troops in which a Turkish officer was shot, and it looked as though Ibrahim Pasha was about to lose his power. But his boldness and diplomacy again triumphed, and up to the period of the outbreak of the World War his power was as great as previously.

In the spring of 1921 the Milli were in rebellion against the Turkish Nationalist Government, and defeated a mixed force of Chechens and Turkish regulars.

A great part of the tribe vacated the tribal area and migrated to the Jabal Abd al Aziz between Ras al Ain and Dair al Zor. It is, however, not yet known whether this change of habitat is merely temporary or permanent.

The Milli Confederation comprise some forty-eight tribes of various sizes, most of them nomad, in the triangle formed by Nisibin, Urfa and Diarbekr. Other tribes outside this area, even as far away as Dersim, recognize the Milli Chief. Many of the tribes in the following list are dealt with under the heading of their own particular Qazas, and in very many cases the bond holding the tribes to the Confederacy is of the very flimsiest.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
MILLI CONFEDERATION	Mahmud ibn Ibrahim Pasha and his brothers Khalil, Abdul Rahman and Ismail.	Were all around Veranshehr and scattered over the triangle Urfa–Nisibin–Diarbekr. but many have recently migrated to the Jabal Abd al Aziz.	20,000 (Figures in this column are from pre-war sources.)
Tribes.			
Abrah (Arabs) ..	Khalaf al Alawi ..	.. ..	400
Adwan (Arabs) ..	Mahmud ibn Halu	.. ..	400
Balleyan Porga ..	..	Near Kharput	500
Baqqarah (Arabs)	Husain Agha ..	.. ..	300
Barguhan	..	West of the Chemikan ..	130
Beski	..	Near Birijik	800
Bujak	..	North-west of Severek ..	..
Buhaimah (Arabs)	Khalif Bey ..	.. ..	100
Chakali	..	West of Haji Manli ..	1,000
Chemikan	..	North-west of Veranshehr	250
Chiaresh	..	North-west of Hisulieh ..	..
Chunan	..	North-east of Veranshehr	210
Daghbashi ..	..	West of Severek	..
Dashi	..	North of Mardin	..
Danan (Yezidi) ..	Ibn Husain Kanjo	East of Veranshehr ..	200
Derejan	..	West of Balleyan ..	800
Dodnan (Kurds) ..	Mustapha Bey ..	.. ..	50
Elia..	..	North of the Khalajari ..	..
Eutergech	..	North of the Merdis ..	..
Gharajnah	Khalil Bey ..	.. ..	150
Givran	..	West of Diarbekr.	
Hisulieh	,,	North of the Barguhan ..	550

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
?	?	10,000	?	?	Chiefly nomad, but also semi-nomad and sedentary. Grazing and agriculture. *Internal cohesion.*—Not very close, but majority of tribes would follow Mahmud Bey on account of the prestige of his family. *External relations.*—Hostile to Arab Badawin taking toll from sedentary Kurdish tribes. It is believed that they are now on better terms with the Shammar. *Turks.*—Tribe owe many grudges to the Turks. *Propaganda.*—Tribe is exposed to propaganda from Turks, Arabs, and French.
..	..	400			
..	..	600			
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary.
..	..	300	..	..	There is a dependent section.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	100			
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	250	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Large numbers. Semi-nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	150	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	50			
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	100	..	..	Sometimes called a section of the Baqqarah.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
MILLI CONFEDERATION—*continued.* *Tribes*—continued.			
Hoshian	..	West of Severek	..
Husainiyah ..	..	Between Jazirah and Nisibin.	..
Isiadat	..	South of Veranshehr ..	85
Jais (Arabs) ..	Abdur Rahman ibn Ibrahim Pasha.	.. ..	200
Janbeg	..	North of the Eutergech	..
Kalendalan ..	..	Dersim and south of Mardin.	..
Kao	..	North of the Derejan ..	5,000
Kassiani	..	West of the Chakali ..	500
Al Kawat	..	East of the Kunaresh ..	..
Kelish	..	North of Diarbekr ..	..
Khalajan	Usman Agha ..	South-west of Diarbekr ..	500
Kiran	..	North-east of the Saidan	550
Kumnaresh ..	..	South-east of Diarbekr	350
Haji Manli ..	..	North of Birijik	500
Matmieh	..	North of Ras al Ain ..	800
Mendan	..	Karajah Dagh	..
Meshkenli	..	North of Mardin	..
Mulikan	..	Dersim	500
Naim-Kharbah (Arabs).	Abid Aqub ..	.. ..	200
Nasrian	..	Near Ras al Ain . ..	75
Saidan	..	North of the Danan ..	450
Sartan	..	Ras al Ain	80
Shamattah (Arabs)	Hamid Bey ..	.. ..	100
Sharjan	Pishar Agha ..	.. ..	300
Sherikan	Mahmud Bey ..	.. ..	100
Terkan	..	South of the Isiadat ..	700
Usbakhan ..	..	Ras al Ain	70
Zirofkan	..	Karajah Dagh	2,000

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Dealt with in the Qaza of Jazirah. Very slight connection with the Milli.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	200			
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Both nomad and sedentary.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	250	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
.	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	200			
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	100			
..	..	300			
..	..	100	..	..	These are very well mounted.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Nomad.
..	..	..	..	..	Semi-nomad.

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The Miran Confederation.

In the days of Sultan Abdul Hamid the Miran Confederation under the leadership of Mustapha Pasha, a powerful personality, was notorious for its looting propensities and general lawlessness. While the majority of the tribes is now more law-abiding, the former characteristics survive in several of the small Miran families which still indulge in minor raids and petty thieving. Mustapha Agha received the title Pasha as a reward for providing two regiments of cavalry under the Hamidiyah system.

Naif Beg ibn Mustapha Pasha, the present chief of the Confederation, is said to be a fairly sensible politician who has no aversion to living under British protection (which he would do if we occupied Jazirah ibn Omar), as long as his past misdeeds are forgiven. At the instigation of the Turks, the Miran were responsible for the massacre of nearly 900 Christians at Faishkhabur in 1915, and the fear of reprisals for this massacre has influenced their attitude towards the British.

The Miran are wholly nomadic and, beginning their migration northwards at the end of May, spend the whole of June on the journey. They pass through Jazirah ibn Omar and then on to their summer grazing grounds via Shernakh and Artushi country.

With the former there is generally friction, as Abdul Rahman Agha of the Shernakh tries to levy toll on all who pass through his territories. Friendly relations exist between the Miran and Artushi. During July and August the tribes remain in their summer quarters, beginning their southern migration in September.

By the end of September they are generally established in their winter habitat. The Miran do not actually winter in the Mosul Vilayet, but live close to its borders, which they occasionally cross near Chilparat. In winter each tribe has its own particular grazing ground, but in summer the various tribes feed their herds on common pasturages.

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Like all migratory Kurds, the Miran do not entirely depend for supplies on any town or towns. They are practically self-supporting, their flocks supplying them with food and clothing.

Action could be most easily taken against any particular tribe or tribes by keeping them off their winter grazing grounds, which are in most cases easily accessible to troops.

The Miran, though numerically weaker than they were before the war, are better armed. It is believed that 50 per cent. of their arms are modern small bore rifles.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
MIRAN CONFEDERATION.	Naif Beg ibn Mustapha Pasha Paramount Chief)	*Winter*—Qazah of Jazirah principally on the right bank of the Tigris in the vicinity of Tel Rumelan. *Summer*—In the hills between Mukus and Shattakh. (Reference Maunsell's Sheet 19, sq. 22 and 23, sq. 17 respectively.)	3,000
Sections.			
(1) Miran ..	Naif Beg ibn Mustapha Pasha.	*Winter*—Tel Rumelan to Demir Qapu. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	1,000
Ali Qan	Haji Osman Agha	*Winter*—South of Jazirah ibn Omar. *Summer*—Sairt District.	200
Batwan of Bohtan	Amar ibn Tamar Agha. Muhammad ibn Mustapha Agha.	*Winter*—Several sections north of Demir Qapu, others north of Jazirah ibn Omar near Deirgule. *Summer*—North of Kashkhair towards Mukus.	400

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	6,000	1,000	1,000	The total of 3,000 families for the Confederation is probably an exaggeration. S.S.O., Mosul, estimated the fighting strength of the Miran at about 2,000 (August, 1919).
..	..	2,000	300	350	Tribe from which the Confederation takes its name. Nomadic. Migrates via Jazirah ibn Omar in May to Mukus and Shattakh, stays there two months and returns in September. *Fighting ability.*—Good. *Political attitude.*—Naif Beg guides destinies of tribe. He is inclined to be pro-British but fears reprisals for Faishkhabur massacres. *External relations.*—Has a feud with Shernakh. As it commits many robberies in its migration, is hated by most sedentary Kurds through whose territory it passes. *Military action.*—Occupation of Jazirah ibn Omar and the refusal of access to summer quarters would bring tribe to heel.
..	..	400	60	70	This tribe has now practically broken away from the Miran Confederation. Some of the tribesmen live in villages south of Jazirah ibn Omar. *External relations.*—Obey Naif Beg in external politics. *Religion.*—Sunni. *Punitive measures.*—As for Miran.
..	..	800	130	150	Nomadic. Pastoral. Migration.—As for Tiyan. *Military action.*—Similar to Tiyan.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Miran—*continued.*			
Dedera	Muhammad ibn Musa Agha.	*Winter*—North of Demir Qapu. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	250
Garusi Garisan ..	Amir ibn Shahin Agha.	*Winter*—Near Jazirah ibn Omar. *South*—South of Sairt.	100
Khalkieh	Arab Agha .. Shahin ibn Arab Agha. Haji Farid ibn Hasan Agha.	*Winter*—Between Chilparat and Tel Sufaie. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	60
Kichan	Kasim ibn Saifdi Agha. Osi ibn Ali Agha.	*Winter*—West of Chilparate (64 miles North-west of Mosul). *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	200
Musarash	..	*Winter*—Round Tel Hayal and Tel Hamza. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	150

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	500	60	70	Nomadic. Pastoral. Migration.—As for Tiyan. *Military action.*—As for Tiyan.
..	..	200	60	20	Now practically broken away from the Confederation. Some of the Garusi live in villages south of Jazirah ibn Omar.
..	..	120	40	60	Along with the Tiyan and Kichan tribes, the Khalkieh have not settled in their winter quarters for the past 3 years (1916–18) but have occupied ground on the left bank of the Tigris south-west of Sloopieh country. While in their present winter quarters they are much under the influence of the Sloopieh Kurds.
..	..	400	60	90	Nomadic.—Along with the Tiyan and Khalkieh tribes, the Kichan have not settled in their winter grazing grounds for the past 3 years on account of the war, but have occupied pasturages south and east of Sloopieh country (1919). Pastoral. *Fighting Ability.*—Good. *Political attitude.*—Play a lone hand—always however on winning side. *Military action.*—*Vide* Tiyan.
..	..	300	40	60	Nomadic. Pastoral. Migration.—As for Tiyan. *Military action.*—As for Tiyan.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Miran—*continued.*			
Tiyan	Rashid ibn Muhammad Agha. Mustapha ibn Keravan Agha.	*Winter*—Round Tel Hawa and Tel Sufaie. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	300
Walaseri ..	Yusuf Razzaq Agha	*Winter*—Between Tel Hawa and Awainat. *Summer*—Hills between Mukus and Shattakh.	300

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	Notes.
..	..	600	80	20	Nomadic. Pastoral. Migrates from Tel Hawa via Jazirah ibn Omar to Mukus. *External relations.*—A robber tribe given to raiding. In May, 1919, looted sheep from villages in British territory near Zakho. During last 3 years have not settled in usual winter quarters but have occupied ground on left bank of Tigris near Sloopieh territory. Hated by Shernakh. Under the influence of Aziz Agha, chief of the Sloopieh. *Military action.*—Occupy Jazirah ibn Omar and deny ingress to summer pastures.
..	..	600	70	80	Nomadic. Pastoral. *Migration and Military action.*—As for Tiyan.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
NISIBIN QAZA.			
Tribes.			
Alian	Muhammad ibn Maran, Ismail ibn Hafseh Barahat.	North of the Jazirah Nisibin road, 30 miles from Nisibin.	1,000
Aznaur	Ahmad Yusuf ..	East and north of Nisibin	2,000
Chomar	Khalil Agha ..	In the Nahiyah of Habak in the hills north-east of Nisibin.	..
Dakhori	Farhan Agha .. Shukri Agha	20 miles north-west of Nisibin.	..
Dakshori-Tamini	..	.. ..	..
Kelanderin ..	Ahmad Agha .. Muhammad Agha	20 miles from Nisibin on the Mardin-Nisibin road.	..
Kochekan ..	Hammo Agha ibn Ahmad Mahi (Bawerni).	In the hills north of Nisibin to Daline.	..
Mirsini	..	On and to the south of the Mardin-Nisibin road.	..
Pinar Ali	..	Village of Sada, 7 miles from Nisibin, on the Mardin-Nisibin road.	..

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
50	300	350	150	200	Sedentary, but in spring they graze their flocks south of the railway line. Muhammad has 20 villages and Ismail has 40. *External relations.*—They pay tribute to the Shammar.
50	200	250	100	150	Sedentary, in 30 villages. A quiet and obedient tribe who pay tribute to Mishal of the Shammar.
..	..	..	..	..	*External relations.*—The tribe used to be dependent to Ali Batti of the Haverki. It is uncertain whether his successors exercise the same control.
..	..	..	..	..	The tribe pays tribute to Ali Abdur Razzaq of the Shammar. The chief Farhan Agha is stupid, rude and unintelligent. Said to have come from Shernakh originally.
..	..	..	..	..	(*See* under title of Kochekan.)
..	..	..	..	..	A small tribe.
50	350	400	150	250	Sedentary, in 40 villages. Shaikh is said to be pro-British and used to be on good terms with the Haverki. He has protected Armenians, and took no notice when summoned to Nisibin by Major-General Ali Ihsan Pasha, G.O.C. 6th Turkish Army.
..	..	..	..	..	A fair sized tribe.
..	..	..	..	..	Sedentary, in one village. A small tribe.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Nisibin Qaza—*continued.*			
Tribes—continued.			
Sarhan	Lately was Ali Batti. It is not known whether his successor Hajo has taken over the Sarhan.	In the hills north-east of Nisibin in the Nahiyah of Habak.	1,500
Shitiyah	Many Mukhtars, Sulaiman al Abbas, Ibrahim al Khalil, Abdi Agha Hasan al Khalil.	Between Qirshairan, Dugir, Aznaur and Nametli.	300
Solkan	Lately was Ali Batti. It is not known whether his successor has taken over the tribe.	In the Nahiyah of Habak in the hills north-east of Nisibin.	..

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
40	960	1,000	500	500	Sedentary, in 30 villages. *Fighting ability.*—Used to follow Ali Batti on his raids. Are great robbers. Anti-Government.
..	..	200	50	150	Sedentary, only leaving their villages for three months in the spring and wandering towards Tel Hadi near Demir Qapukhan *Internal cohesion.*—Bad. Each village has a mukhtar, and there is no paramount chief.
..	..	..	..	..	Together with the Haverki, Chomar and Sarhan used to form one confederation under Ali Batti.

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KARAGAJ.

The Karagaj were originally a nomad Turkoman clan of Western Anatolia, and were settled by Sultan Salim on the slopes of the Karajah Dagh. The object of this transfer was to compensate Kurdistan for the loss of the Ziriki, Tirikan and other tribes, which the Ottoman Government had forcibly settled in Western Anatolia. The Karagaj quickly intermarried with the local Kurds of inferior origin, and soon became to all intents and purposes a Kurdish tribe talking the Kurdish tongue. The tribe was later joined by many families of nomadic Kurds, who hoped to share the good treatment they at first received from the Government.

The tribe is semi-nomadic, brutal, savage, and indescribably filthy. It has a bad name in every respect, and being on the high road gets a bad name for all Kurds. The numbers of the tribe are being continually increased by outcasts from other tribes and by evildoers of all descriptions.

Note.—Another tribe of the same name and probably of the same original stock belongs to the Berazieh Confederacy.

The chief of the tribe, Abdul Qadir al Darogh, was imprisoned in February, 1919, at Diarbekr by the Turks. The tribe is now ruled nominally by the mother of Abdul Qadir, but actually by a certain Kasab Shekho, who appears to have a character akin to that of the late Ali Batti of the Haverki.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
SEVEREK AND DIARBEKR QAZAS.			
Tribes.			
Bujak	..	A hill tribe in the Qaza of Severek.	..
Barhan	..	A small tribe in the Diarbekr District.	
Chaikessen ..	..	A small tribe in the Qaza of Severek.	
Chichihieh (Kikihieh).	Abdur Rahman ..	Karajah Dagh in winter. Jaghjagah River in summer.	1,200
Hoskin	..	A hill tribe in the Qaza of Severek.	..
Karagaj	Abdul Qadir al Darogh. Kasab Shekho.	In the triangle between Diarbekr Severek and Veranshehr.	1,200

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	..	..	..	In alliance with the Karagaj and the Hoshin under the leadership of Kasab Shekho (*vide* Karagaj).
..	..	500	100	400	Nomad. *External relations.* — Formerly allied with the Milli. *History.*—A large tribe of Semi-nomads who say they are descendants of an Amir sent to rule the Diar "Arabiyah" by the Abbasid Caliphs. The chiefs think themselves of noble blood and have great contempt for the tribesmen.
..	..	..	..	..	In alliance with the Karagaj and the Bujak under the leadership of Kasab Shekho.
..	..	1,000	300	700	Semi-nomad. *Fighting ability.* — Tribe are thieves and robbers, but not very bold. *External relations.*—At enmity with the Turks. Abdul Qadir is in prison in Diarbekr, Kasab Shekho is carrying on. In alliance with the Hoshin, Barhan, and other hill tribes of the district. Kasab Shekho can raise 8,000 fighting men.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Sor Qaza	Haji Ahmad Agha of Avina is the most influential (*see* "Personalities").	The Qaza of Sor	7,700
Tribes.			
Atraf-i-Shahr ..	None	Around the town of Sor ..	400
Dereveri Banda Zor	Abdul Hakim Beg	East of the Surgichi and west of the road from Hasan Kaif to Sor.	250
Dereveri Banda Zir	Shukri ibn Isa Hammo, Taufiq brother of Shukri.	Between the Dakshuri and the Dereveri Banda Zor.	250
Kohsar	Mukhtars and the nobility of Sor.	Near the town of Sor ..	800
Omarian-i-Fuqani..	Ali Agha, Ismail Agha.	To the south of Sor ..	1,900
Omarian-i-Tahtani	Usman Agha, Khalil Ghazali, Ahmad Ali, Haji Hasan.	To the south of Sor ..	1,800
Shaikhan ..	Haji Ahmad of Avina.	Between Avina and the Surgichi.	700

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Service-able.	
..	..	4,050	1,800	2,250	The two branches of the Surgichi and the Shaikhan are united under Haji Ahmad of Avina.
..	..	50	..	50	Sedentary. Rayat with no tribal organisation. Have suffered from the War. 5 villages.
..	..	325	75	250	Sedentary, in 5 villages. One village with irrigation. *Fighting ability.*—All robbers well practised in war. Have not suffered through the war. *External relations.*—Continually fighting with the Dereveri Banda Zir.
..	..	325	75	250	Sedentary, in 5 villages. One village with irrigation. *Fighting ability.*—All robbers well practised in war. *External relations.*— Continually fighting with the Dereveri Banda Zor. In alliance with Izzat-ud-Din of the Dakshuri, who lives at Kasri.
..	..	250	50	200	Sedentary, in 10 villages. No irrigation. Have lost 10 per cent. by the war.
..	..	950	200	750	Sedentary, in 27 villages of which half are irrigated. Chief crop is grapes. Reputed robbers.
..	..	950	200	750	Sedentary, in 25 villages. Chief crop is grapes. *External relations.*—Bold robbers. Under Khalil Ghazali have been known to terrorise the town of Mardin. Not friendly with the Turks.
..	..	..	300	..	Sedentary, in 9 villages. Not reduced by war. Haji Ahmad is a strong Turkish Nationalist, but is loyal to the Ottoman Government. The tribe have 400 rounds per rifle and are providing Militia.

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1. Confederation, Tribe or Section.	2. Chiefs.	3. Habitat.	4. Families' Tents or Houses.
Sor Qaza—*continued.*			
Tribes—continued.			
Surgichi Cham-i-Zir	Haji Ahmad Agha (Avina) (*See* "Personalities.")	East of the Sor River, between the Sor River and the Tigris.	1,300
Surgichi Cham-i-Zor	Haji Ahmad Agha (Avina).	East of the Sor River, between the Sor River and the Tigris.	600

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5. Armed Men.			6. Rifles.		7. Notes.
Horse.	Foot.	Total.	Modern.	Old, but Serviceable.	
..	..	..	600	..	Sedentary. *Internal cohesion.*—Good. Also on good terms with the other section of the Surgichi. *Fighting force.*—400 rounds per modern rifle. Number of old rifles unknown.
..	..	..	306	..	Sedentary, in 10 villages. *Internal cohesion.*—Good. Also on good terms with the other section of the Surgichi. *Fighting force.*—400 rounds per modern rifle. Number of old rifles unknown. Provide Militia. Population reduced 40 per cent. during the war.

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CHAPTER VII.

PERSONALITIES.

ABDUL QADIR PASHA HAJI KOZI.

A native of Mardin and one of the most influential citizens. He was a member of the Kurdish Committee, and also joined the local Milice Committee when that was formed. Occasionally he canvasses the tribes with anti-British propaganda.

AHMAD AGHA, HAJI.

Haji Ahmad Agha resides at Avina and controls the Surgichi and Shaikhan tribes. He made an excellent impression on Major Noel in the spring of 1919, at which time he was an ardent Kurdist Nationalist. At the beginning of 1920 he was brought into Mardin by a Government gendarme escort, and persuaded to give a promise to furnish a certain number of Milice troops. He appears to have been compelled to make an outward show of joining the Turkish National Party. He is a Kurd of considerable force and enlightenment, who keeps his tribe in exemplary order. He always submitted to properly constituted authority, and when the war broke out he assisted the Turks to conscript his tribesmen. Now, to his chagrin, he sees his villagers reduced in numbers whilst the surrounding tribes have scored by not helping the Turks. He is said to be actuated by a considerable measure of Kurdish patriotism, but at the same time he is not Chauvinistic. He struck Major Noel as being distinctly sensible and level-headed, and likely to play an important part in the future politics of Kurdistan. Up to date this impression has not been realised. Haji Ahmad Agha has a son, Kaimil (*q.v.*).

AHMAD AL SENUSSI.

See Chapter VII, Report on Area 1 (Northern Jazirah).

AKIF BEY (LIEUT.-COLONEL).

Succeeded the quiescent Ali Beg as Officer Commanding 2nd Division in August, 1920. During his tenure of office Akif Bey has been very active in inciting the border tribes to attack the British. His headquarters

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are at Sairt, but he frequently visits the storm-centre of Jazirah ibn Omar. A rampant Nationalist and consequently very anti-British. In June, 1922, it was reported that Akif had vacated his post for another in the Nationalist's Western Army.

CHALABI IBN USMAN.

With Hajo (*q.v.*) joint Chief of the Haverki. Chalabi was imprisoned by the Turks for some time in Kharput, but was released in January, 1920, for the purpose of murdering Ali Batti, who was at that time the paramount Chief of the Haverki, and who had previously been giving the Turks considerable trouble. This pleasant task Chalabi faithfully performed. Was active in support of the Milice movement at Midiat in March, 1920.

HAJO.

Joint Chief of the Haverki Kurds with Chalabi (*q.v.*). Was imprisoned by the Turks between 1914 and 1920. Assumed his present position on the assassination of Ali Batti. His brother, Sulaiman Effendi (*q.v.*), was the assistant Qaimmaqam of Nisibin in 1921.

IGNATIUS ELIA III.

Jacobite Patriarch of Antioch residing at Dair Zaferan Monastery, near Mardin. His baptismal name is Nasri. Born at Mardin, 30th October, 1867. Educated at Dair Zaferan Monastery. Ordained priest, 1892. In 1899 elected Patriarchal Vicar at Mosul, and in 1902 to the same post at Diarbekr. Became Bishop in 1908 and made Bishop of Mosul in 1912. Elected Patriarch in 1916. Decorated by the Turks (1st Class Mejidieh) in 1917. He is a clever diplomat of the eastern type, and has never wished to break with the Ottoman authorities or seek European protection. He is a bitter opponent of the Catholic missionaries. During the war he advised his people to offer no opposition to the Turks. His advice being followed in most cases, the Jacobites were practically unmolested by the Turks.

IZZAT-UD-DIN, AGHA.

Izzat-ud-Din Agha is the Chief of the Karjaus, Raman and Habesbani sections of the Dakshuri. With these tribes he can put in the field 1,500 men, of whom 800 would be armed with modern rifles. His headquarters

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are at Kasri. Izzat-ud-Din is a man who possesses some local influence, and he used to oppose his combination of tribes to that of the late Ali Batti of the Haverki. He has many murders to his credit. In 1918 he was out against the Turkish Government, but was badly defeated and his castle was burnt. He hardly knows his own mind. Just after the armistice he was well disposed towards the British, but recent propaganda has made him distrustful. The tribes around complain much of his extortions. Izzat-ud-Din also controls the Zir section of the Dereveri tribe. Since Ali Batti's murder Izzat-ud-Din has been the most powerful chief in the Midiat Qaza.

JEVAD PASHA.

Lieut.-General Jevad Pasha, Commander of the Jazirah Front at Diarbekr, is the son of Arabkirli Shakir Pasha, A.D.C. to the late Sultan, Abdul Hamid. Born in Constantinople in 1873, he obtained his diploma at the Galata Serai College in 1889, and, after going through the Military School, passed out with the rank of Staff Captain in 1893. Appointed A.D.C. to the Sultan through the influence of his father, who was then Chief of Staff. Later he was sent to Germany to complete his military studies, and upon his return assumed his post at the palace. Upon the proclamation of the Constitution he was appointed Officer Commanding 2nd Division of the Guards, and in 1909 Director of the Staff Officers' School. In 1912 he become Colonel, and in 1913 he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and appointed General Officer Commanding Defences of the Dardanelles. In consideration of his services after the evacuation of the Dardanelles by the Allies he was made General Officer Commanding 8th Army with the rank of Lieut.-General. He was in command of the Army in Palestine, which was routed on the eve of the armistice. In November and December, 1918, he held the post of Chief of the General Staff, and during the early stages of the armistice was responsible for the greater part of the obstruction caused by the Turkish Army. During the rise of the Nationalist movement was one of its strongest and cleverest supporters in Constantinople. Arrested and sent to Malta in 1920. Released from internment in 1921 and proceeded to Angora. Appointed to the command of the Jazirah Front in November, 1921.

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Height 5 ft. 7 in.; complexion fairish; large nose; brown moustaches; large front teeth; medium build; prominent eyebrows; dark blue eyes; walks with a slight stoop. Very Germanophile; knows good German and French; sober habits; well educated and capable administrator; charming manners; obsessed with the idea that the Turks are far superior to any other race.

KAMIL EFFENDI.

Appointed Qaimmaqam of Jazirah ibn Omar in December, 1921. Anti-British, but does not appear to be making himself particularly felt.

KHALIL BEY.

Khalil Bey is the Chief of the Mahalami in the Qaza of Midiat. He resides at Kefr Howar. His uncle, Khalaf Bey, was recently executed by the Turks, but nevertheless Khalil appears Turcophile. Khalil Bey considers it immaterial whether he is under the Turks or under the Sharif as both are Islamic powers.

KHALIL IBN IBRAHIM PASHA.

Khalil is the brother of Mahmud, Chief of the Milli Kurds. He resembles his elder brother in face and manner, but is more alert and impetuous. Very shrewd and intelligent. He knows how to read and write. He has been a good deal in Constantinople and has a desire to travel further. In the Turkish army he saw service at Bulair in 1913 and near Erzerum in 1914. He ranks as a Qaimmaqam (Lieut.-Colonel). Khalil has nothing to do with the policy of the tribe, which is all in the hands of Mahmud, but he is the executor of the wishes of Mahmud. In time of trouble he would probably be the fighting leader of the Milli.

KIAMIL BEY.

Kiamil Bey is the son of Haji Ahmad Agha of Avina (*q.v.*). He was educated as an engineer in Switzerland, but when war broke out he returned, joined the Turkish army, and served as a liaison officer with the Germans. He is said to be an ardent Kurdish Nationalist actuated by genuine patriotism. Though strongly in favour of Kurdish independence he supports the idea of a British mandate.

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MAHMUD BEG IBN IBRAHIM PASHA.

Mahmud Beg is paramount Chief of the Milli Confederation. For the past history of this Confederation *see under* "Tribes." Mahmud or Mamo is a rather slight, delicate man of about 30, with a fine face, dignified, good manners, possessing a sense of humour and ready to laugh. Cannot read or write (which he bitterly regrets), but is intelligent and progressive. He has built his own house, a public hammam, a café-club, a big Khan, a fine mosque and a number of shops, all in Veranshehr. He has developed and planted large gardens and is now working at land irrigation. He wants to build schools and introduce teachers, and is proud of having built a number of villages and of having induced people to settle on the land. Is very religious, but is not bigoted. Mahmud Beg has no reason to love the Turks and his bitter feuds against the Nationalists in 1920-21 have in no way modified this attitude, but rather accentuated it. To interviewers he has always appeared pro-British, but it is now three years since a British representative went to see him, and much has happened during that time. There is every reason, however, to believe that he is pro-French.

MUSA BEY, HAJI.

A leading notable of Mush. Headed a local rebellion against the Turks in January, 1921, driving the Nationalist officials from the town and sacking the public buildings.

NAIF BEY IBN MUSTAPHA PASHA.

Naif Bey is the Chief of the Miran tribe and also exercises influence over a confederation of tribes of which the Miran is recognized as the head. Mustapha Pasha, the father of Naif Bey, was responsible for having increased the influence of the Miran; under his son it has tended to decrease. In 1915 Naif Bey helped to murder 900 Christians at Faishkhabur, and he now refuses to listen to any offer of British friendship until he is first assured that his part in this massacre is completely forgiven. After the armistice he was quite ready to try and come to an agreement on these terms as it appeared likely that we should occupy Jazirah ibn Omar, a strategic point which controls the wanderings of the Miran tribes. In

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December, 1920, his tribe in their migration fired on Iraq kelleks coming down the Tigris, for which act of aggression they were bombed with salutary effect. Although no further trouble has since occurred, it is possible that Naif Bey still remains anti-British.

NURI BEY.

Bimbashi Nuri Bey is at present sub-Chief Staff Officer, 2nd Division, the headquarters of which are at Sairt. Formerly Officer Commanding 24th Regiment at Nisibin, he relieved Bimbashi Arif Bey in this position as the latter was not successful enough in his efforts to inculcate the spirit of the new Turkish Nationalism into the minds of the tribes of the district. Nuri Bey is a friend of Kenan Bey, late Commander of 5th Division, and was appointed at the request of the latter, being transferred from the command of a regiment in the 2nd Division. At the time of the first occupation of Kirkuk, Bimbashi Nuri Bey was in command of the Menzil there. After the occupation he departed to Kharput, where he was employed in an unknown position. From there he returned during 1919 to the 2nd Division, being placed in command of the recently formed 6th Regiment. In 1920 he was transferred from here to the 24th Regiment.

QASIM AGHA IBN ABDI CHALABI.

A notable of Mardin. Was stated to be the ringleader of a Moslem society, which in May, 1921, was actively engaged in oppressing the Christian elements in that town.

SHAFIQ EFFENDI.

Qaimmaqam of Jazirah ibn Omar for a short period previous to Kamil Effendi (*q.v.*), who succeeded him in December, 1921, when Shafiq became Qaimmaqam of Ras al Ain.

SHAUKI EFFENDI.

An inhabitant of Diarbekr. During the war he joined the Milice specially formed to escort parties of deported Armenians, in which force he obtained a commission. He speedily distinguished himself by the way in which he murdered parties of Armenians entrusted to his care, and in consequence became very wealthy. At present his outlook on politics is

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influenced by the desire to retain all the wealth that he obtained by murder and spoliation. This can best be done by supporting the National Party, and consequently Shauki Effendi is an ardent Nationalist. He is a member of the new Milice, and it is said that if he takes the supreme control of the Milice there will be a marked improvement in the numbers and enthusiasm of this organization.

SULAIMAN EFFENDI.

The assistant Qaimmaqam of Nisibin and a brother of Hajo (*q.v.*) the joint Chief of the Haverki.

SULTAN BEY.

Sultan Bey, until recently the Qaimmaqam of Jazirah ibn Omar, is a man of 47 years of age. His family belongs to the section of the Jubur on the Khabur River. At the age of 12, Sultan was sent to school in Constantinople, where he studied agriculture among other subjects. During his tenure of office at Jazirah ibn Omar there was an increase, if that were possible, of propaganda emanating from that place and spreading among the Kurdish tribes along the northern frontier.

CHAPTER VIII.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Roads.—Compared with the remainder of Turkey, this area is well supplied with roads. In the north there are one or two military chaussées, and in the south there are numerous roads passable for light wheeled carts and field guns. On many of these it is possible for motors* to run. In the heart of the hilly districts the tracks are impassable for wheels, and pack transport only can be used.

In the rainy season the unmetalled roads become sodden very quickly, but two or three days of sunshine dry them sufficiently to render them passable for light wheeled vehicles. In the north the roads are rendered impassable

* The word "motors" throughout this chapter means automobiles up to, and including, the weight of a Ford van or light F.I.A.T. lorry. No information is available as to the number of cars which could run over the road during a definite period.

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during the winter on account of snow. At such times it is necessary to keep to the chaussée roads, and even then it is doubtful if moderate sized bodies of troops could move along them with their transport.

The following roads in this area are metalled:—

(*a*) Diarbekr–Arghana–Kharput.

(*b*) Diarbekr–Farqin–Bitlis.

(*c*) Diarbekr–Severek–Birijik (partly metalled).

The following roads in this area are normally passable for wheels, such as the arabanas in common civil use:—

(*a*) Mosul–Nisibin–Mardin–Diarbekr.

(*b*) Diarbekr–Chermuk–Severek–Urfa.

(*c*) Urfa–Veranshehr–Mardin.

(*d*) Jazirah ibn Omar–Demir Qapu–Nisibin.

(*e*) Diarbekr–Almadin–Sairt.

(*f*) Kharput–Arghana–Severek.

(*g*) Kharput–Palu–Mush.

Other roads are in general passable only for pack transport, but many could easily be improved into cart roads.

Methods of Travel.—Where the road makes it possible, the wealthy traveller moves about in an arabana—a light four-wheeled cart capable of carrying three or four passengers and their baggage. The arabana is drawn by two horses. The ordinary traveller throughout the district hires a mule or donkey, and attaches himself to a caravan going in the required direction. Horses cannot as a rule be hired. They are much esteemed and are privately owned by wealthy inhabitants. A small pack pony gives a more comfortable ride than a donkey. An arabana can cover 30 miles in a day; a caravan averages 20 miles per day in good weather. Motor cars are occasionally employed to take travellers into Western Kurdistan, but the practical impossibility of obtaining spare parts and the lack of petrol in this area militates against their more frequent use.

Travellers rest the night at the end of each stage either in the open air or in khans, where such are available. Solitary travel is not safe on account of the predatory instincts of nearly all the inhabitants of Kurdistan. By remaining with a caravan a traveller escapes having the whole of his goods looted on condition that he pays his share of the sum claimed by the natives, through whose country the road passes.

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Between Aleppo and Nisibin, the railway at one time ousted all other forms of transport, but unfortunately it is not at present in working order.

Railways.—The only railway line which either exists or has been projected in Western Kurdistan is the proposed German line from Aleppo to Baghdad and its offshoot to Mardin.

It was intended that this line should run from the Anatolian railway terminus at Aleppo to the Euphrates at Jerablus, and thence via Harran, Ras al Ain and Nisibin to Mosul on the Tigris, thence via Tikrit and Samarrah to Baghdad.

Up to 1920, when the bridge at Jerablus was destroyed, trains were running as far as Nametli, nine miles east of Nisibin. Between Nametli and Mosul the track has been surveyed and traced out, a slight amount of work has been done on the embankments and cuttings, and a few station buildings have been erected, but it is doubtful if these still exist. A branch line formerly left the main track near Derbisiyah running to Izzat Pasha, the station for Mardin town. From here a narrow gauge line extended northwards to Badina Tupraghi, a distance of twelve miles. This line was originally constructed to facilitate the transport of timber and fuel from the hills north of Mardin. It was subsequently proposed to continue the track to Diarbekr, but nothing appears to have been done in this respect.

With the exception of twelve miles of narrow gauge mentioned above, the whole track was laid with standard 4 feet 8½ inch metals. The rolling stock is of German origin, but there is very little of it and that is in very bad condition. On the run from Aleppo to Nisibin only two locomotives were in working order in 1920 and the trucks badly needed overhauling. Owing to lack of coal it was found necessary in the later stages of the war to use wood fuel, with the result that constant delays to clean out the fireboxes were unavoidable.

Up to the end of 1919 trains were running regularly as far as Nisibin, and also on the branch to Mardin. From Aleppo to Ras al Ain the track was properly ballasted and remained in fair condition. From Ras al Ain to Nisibin there was no ballast, and it is believed that a great outlay of time and money will be necessary to get the track in a fit state to stand heavy traffic. Recent intelligence shows that the line between Jerablus

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and Nisibin has been seriously damaged by the inhabitants of the country through which it passes, most of the permanent way having been removed for fuel or for use as girders in the construction of buildings.

The most vulnerable point of the line is the iron bridge over the Euphrates at Jerablus. This was destroyed in the fighting between the French and the Turkish Nationalists in 1920, but recent reports indicate that it is being reconstructed under the supervision of French engineers.

Aerodromes and Landing Grounds.

Nametli.—At railhead, nine miles East of Nisibin.

Nisibin.—Plenty of suitable ground to the north of the railway station.

Mardin.—South of the railway station, three miles distant from the town.

Midiat.—Nothing better than cultivated ground to the west of the town.

Sor.—Nothing suitable.

Derek.—On the plain, three miles to the south.

Between Mardin and Derek.—At Chinareh, on the narrow guage line and eleven miles from Mardin, there is flat ground half a mile to the west. Much work is required.

Diarbekr.—Half a mile from the town on both sides of the Kharput road.

Kharput.—Existing Turkish aerodrome.

Inland Water Transport.—In the whole of Western Kurdistan there are only two navigable rivers, viz., the Euphrates and Tigris. Of these the Euphrates is not used above Birijik, where it passes out of the area. Below this point there is a brisk traffic carried on downstream by means of Shakhturs—a name given to the locally built flat-bottomed barges. For a description of these boats, see Chapter II.—Rivers.

On the Tigris there is considerable traffic all the way downstream from Diarbekr. Power-driven craft are unknown for the simple reason that there is no traffic upstream. The rafts employed for drifting down are

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called kelleks. They are built of a framework of rough poles supported on numerous inflated goat and sheep skins. On arrival at the port of destination the timber is sold while the skins, after being deflated, are returned overland to the starting point in readiness for the next trip.

The size of a kellek is reckoned by the number of skins, and payment is made accordingly. A good-sized raft would be of 400 to 500 skins. The largest rafts in use have about 800 skins. A kellek of 200 skins measures approximately 29 by 20 feet. The load of a kellek varies from five to thirty tons according to the number of skins; they can only move with the current and, if properly constructed, are practically unsinkable. They are kept in midstream by two rough sweeps.

At the present time this method of travel is largely employed for goods and passengers from Diarbekr and intermediate places to Mosul; at Mosul it is usual to change into a fresh kellek and proceed downstream to railhead, now at Shergat. The chief goods carried are oak galls and cereals.

Telegraphs and Telephones.—The details of the accompanying skeleton map (page 106) of the telegraph systems of Western Kurdistan are taken from the official Turkish handbook in use in November, 1918.

At present there is no traffic over the Turkish–British frontier, i.e., between Zakho and Jazirah and between Hogena and Dugir. It is not known how far the same modification applies with regard to the French frontier in the Aleppo Vilayet, nor what new military lines the French have constructed.

A telephone service is known to be at present maintained between Ras al Ain, Mardin, Diarbekr, Nisibin and Dugir. It is probable that this is extended to some other offices.

Posts.—The Postal arrangements leave much to be desired. The service is irregular and unsafe. Merchants and private persons find it safer and more expeditious to entrust their letters to travellers or professional caravanchis, who deliver them on receipt of a small reward.

The post to Angora and Constantinople is supposed to leave the chief towns twice weekly. It is thought that this official service is better maintained than over the other routes.

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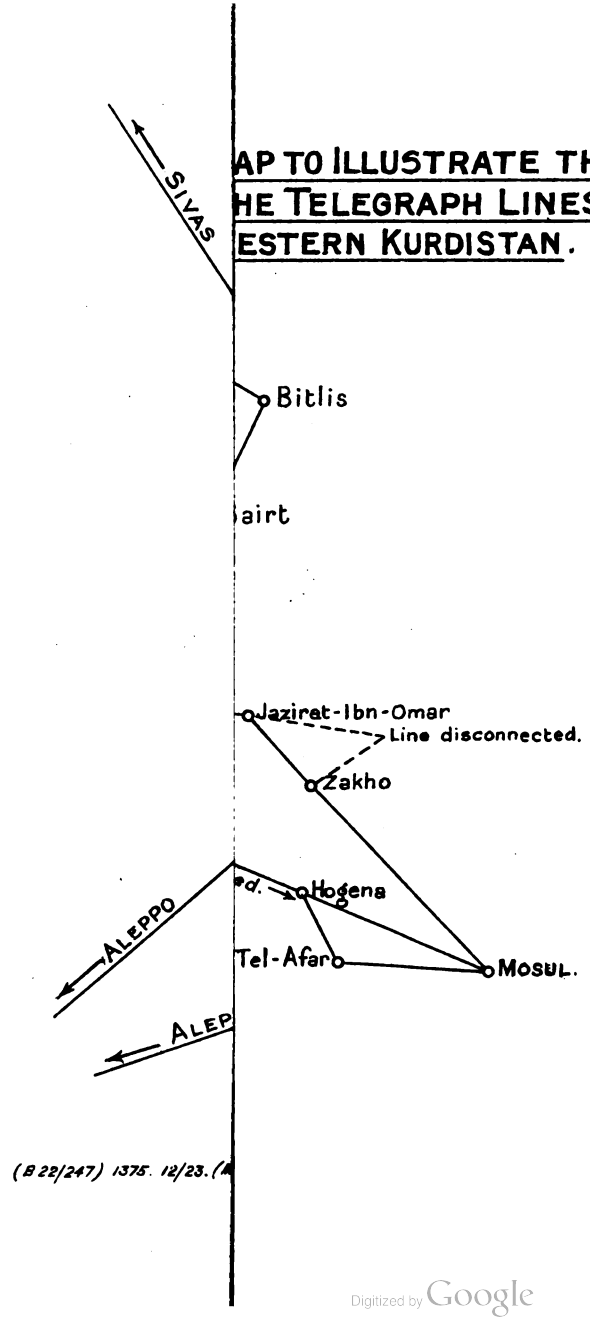

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The mail bags are transported by pack animals or, where possible, by the railway. Motor services are unknown. A gendarme escort accompanies the postman, who himself is often a gendarme.

Wireless.—The only known wireless station in this area is situated just outside Diarbekr on a small hill.

Description of Routes.

Route No. 1.—*Mosul–Nisibin via Hogena.*—This route is described in Chapter 8, Military Report on Mesopotamia, (Iraq), Area No. 1 (Northern Jazirah).

Route No. 2.—*Nisibin–Kharput via Diarbekr.*—184 miles.

General.—Nisibin–Tel Harrin.—An unmetalled track passable to all arms in dry weather. Light carts and pack only in the rains.

Tel Harrin–Mardin.—Road is partially metalled, but worn in places.

Mardin–Kharput.—This sector was a well-metalled road and one of the main arteries of Anatolia. It fell into disrepair during and since the Great War, but much work is reported to have been done by Greek prisoners during 1921.

Water	Mile	3½	Stream 4,000 galls. per hour.
	,,	4	Stream 2,000 galls. per hour.
Dara	,,	16	Good water.
Amudeh Chai ...	,,	17	20,000 galls. per hour in early autumn. Good water.
Tel Harrin ...	,,	28½	Two wells of drinking water.
Shaikhan ...	,,	48	Large streams.
Khaneki Yuqari	,,	60	Ample supply of good water from stream.
Qara Kopru ...	,,	81	Large stream, quality unknown.
Diarbekr ...	,,	91	River Tigris; unlimited.
	,,	103½	Small stream, dry in summer.

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Bagul ...	... Mile	124½	One spring.
Tigris Valley ...	,,	137¾	Unlimited supply of drinking water.
Burnus Khan ...	,,	153	Good supply, stream 10 ft. wide.
Geuljik Lake ...	,,	158¼	Large fresh-water lake.
Keghwank ...	,,	174	Numerous streams.

Supplies.—Nisibin.—Sufficient for one division.
Nisibin–Khaneki Yuqari.—Scarce.
Khaneki Yuqari–Diarbekr.—Fair supplies.

Most of the route between Diarbekr and Kharput is under cultivation, millet being the chief grain, whilst all types of fruit common to the country are extensively raised. Diarbekr—plentiful supplies of grain and fruit, numerous sheep and goats.

Arghana Maden (mile 141) has good supplies.

No definite information about the size of unit for which the supplies are available.

Transport.

Fuel.—Mardin (mile 37)—Khaneki Yuqari (mile 60).—Fuel is plentiful between these places especially at Khaneki Yuqari. Between Diarbekr and Kharput fuel is fairly plentiful.

Grazing.—Nisibin–Mardin.—There is a little grazing on the slopes of the mountains, which run parallel to the route.

After Mardin, until the Tigris Valley is reached, grazing is poor.

Between Diarbekr and Kharput grazing is limited—cultivation is more prevalent than stock raising.

Camping Grounds.—Nisibin. Unlimited space.
Dara. (Mile 16.) Unlimited space.
Khaneki Yuqari. (Mile 60.) Unlimited space.
Arghana Maden. (Mile 141.)
Burnus Khan. (Mile 153.) Sufficient for one brigade at each place.

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Communications.—Nisibin.—Jezirah ibn Omar.
,, —Midiat.
,, —Faish Khabur.
,, —Tel Afar via Balad Sinjar.
Mardin.—Midiat.
,, —Hasan Kaif via Kulith.
Diarbekr.—Midiat via Kulith.
,, —Sairt via Hop.
,, —Ziyaret and Bitlis via Farqin and Zokh.

Inhabitants.—Nisibin.—Mardin, Kurds and a few Syrian Christians.
Mardin.—Diarbekr, Kurds with a few Chaldeans at Kabi (mile 87).
Arghana Maden.—(Mile 141). Greeks and Armenians.
Keghwank.—(Mile 174). Turks and Armenians.

Climate.—Heavy snow and rainfall make the route impassable for the greater part of the winter. In the spring the country is covered with herbage. In summer the heat is intense and sandstorms in the open parts of the route are of frequent occurrence.

Aerodromes.—Landing grounds exist at Nisibin and Diarbekr, but no details as to size and condition or exact location are known. There is an aerodrome at Kharput, but the presence of any serviceable aeroplanes or material is very doubtful.

Tactical.—From Nisibin-Mardin (mile 37) the route is commanded by a high range of hills running parallel to the track at a distance of two to five miles.

In the Diarbekr-Kharput section the road is often revetted out instead of cut into the rocks, thereby rendering it capable of being easily blocked.

Bridges.—Numerous large bridges exist as follows:—
Diarbekr. (Mile 91.) Substantial stone bridge.
Deugechid. (Mile 102½.) Masonry, 435 feet, five arches.
Kalam Khan. (Mile 132½.) Masonry, 270 feet, five arches.
Kaballi Kupri. (Mile 115.) Masonry, 115 feet, three arches.

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Stages.—	*Inter.*	*Total.*
I. Amudeh Chai	17	17
II. Tel Harrin	11½	28½
III. Shaikhan	19½	48
IV. Khaneki Yuqari ...	12	60
V. Qara Kupri	21	81
VI. Diarbekr	10	91
VII. Mile 103½	12½	103½
VIII. Bagul	21	124½
IX. Tigris Valley	13¼	137¾
X. Geuljik Lake	20½	158¼
XI. Keghwank	15¾	174
XII. Kharput	10	184

Route 3.—*Birijik-Diarbekr via Severek.*—154 miles.

General.—With the exception of the first 28 miles, the route appears to have been metalled along most of its length. Although the latest reports (1917) state it to be in bad repair, no definite information as to its present state is available.

It was used during the war as a Turkish L. of C., and is one of the post routes.

Water.—

Birijik			Plentiful supply.
Harar ...	Mile	8	One well.
Golaksiz ...	,,	10¾	One deep well.
Jerdo	,,	12¼	Three good wells.
Charmalik ...	,,	21	Two wells and one small stream.
Yogum Burj	,,	33¾	Small supply in rain-water cisterns.
Mile 40 ...	,,	40	Good well 180 feet deep.
Ras al Ain ...	,,	56	One good spring.
Karuzlar ...	,,	67	Large spring of good water.
Cheltik ...	,,	82	Two good springs.
Arastul ...	,,	98½	Two wells and one spring. Good water.
Uch Quyu ...	,,	101	Three wells, good water; small spring dry in summer.

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Quainaq	... Mile	$111\frac{3}{4}$	Two shallow wells, one small spring.
Shaitan Dereh	,,	$126\frac{1}{4}$	Large stream.
Sira Gozlu	... ,,	$143\frac{1}{2}$	Plenty of good water from springs.
Diarbekr	... ,,	154	River Tigris, unlimited supply.

Supplies.—Birijik. Plentiful supplies of grain, fruit and butter.

Birijik–Severek (mile 91). Supplies are very scarce.

Severek – Diarbekr. Supplies fairly abundant.

Diarbekr. Plentiful supplies of grain and fruit.

The whole of the section Severek–Diarbekr is fertile and under both cultivation and pasture.

Transport.—Birijik and Diarbekr can probably provide considerable boat and pack transport, although no definite numbers are available.

Fuel.—Birijik. Plentiful supply from up river.

Birijik–Severek. Nil.

Qarajah Dagh. (Mile $89\frac{1}{2}$–$124\frac{1}{4}$.) Plentiful supply.

Qara Baghcheh. (Mile $122\frac{1}{4}$.) Good springs.

Grazing.—Birijik–Qara Juren. (Mile $71\frac{1}{2}$.) Nil.

Qara Juren–Diarbekr. Excellent grazing, in the season all the way.

Obstacles.—Qarajah Dagh (mile $89\frac{1}{2}$–$122\frac{1}{4}$) presents very rough and stony ground, which is impassable for anything but light wheeled transport.

Among the foot hills of Qarajah Dagh there is a boulder-strewn plateau passable for infantry only.

Camping Grounds.—Birijik. Level open space south of the town used by caravans. Size not known, but probably room for two battalions infantry.

Uch Quyu. (Mile 101–$101\frac{3}{4}$.) Open grass hills and wide valley. (Mile $131\frac{3}{4}$.) Camping ground requires a certain amount of clearance. Water at Sersin Khan (mile $132\frac{1}{4}$).

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Communications.—Birijik–Killis.
,, –Rum Qalah.
,, –Aintab.
,, –Marash.
,, –Aleppo.
Severek–Gerger.
,, –Rum Qalah.
,, –Chermuk.
Diarbekr–Midiat via Kulith.
,, –Sairt via Hop.
,, –Ziyaret and Bitlis via Farqin and Zokh.

Inhabitants.—Birijik: Turks, Arabs, and Kurds.
Severek: Kurds and Armenians.
Diarbekr: Kurds, Armenians and a few Jacobite Christians.

The population along this route is composed of tribal Kurds and Kurdish-speaking Armenians.

Climate.—The whole route is between 2,000 and 4,000 feet, and the climate goes to extremes, especially in the vicinity of Qarajah Dagh (mile $89\frac{1}{2}$–$122\frac{1}{4}$).

Diarbekr is unhealthy, being subject to epidemics of typhus and cholera.

Rains and Floods.—The rains have the effect of making very heavy going in places, but apparently the route is never actually blocked except in the Qarajah Dagh district, where heavy snow is encountered between October and March.

Tactical.

Aerodromes.—Diarbekr: A Turkish aerodrome reported here formerly.

Stages.—	*Inter.*	*Total.*
I. Aghaji Kurgu	$17\frac{3}{4}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$
II. Mile 40	$22\frac{1}{4}$	40
III. Ras al Ain	16	56
IV. Qara Juren	$15\frac{1}{2}$	$71\frac{1}{2}$
V. Qara Quyu	$13\frac{3}{4}$	$85\frac{1}{4}$
VI. Uch Quyu	$15\frac{3}{4}$	101
VII. Gedik	$13\frac{3}{4}$	$114\frac{3}{4}$
VIII. Mile $131\frac{3}{4}$	17	$131\frac{3}{4}$
IX. Sirab Gozlu	$11\frac{3}{4}$	$143\frac{1}{2}$
X. Diarbekr	$10\frac{1}{2}$	154

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Route 4.—*Nisibin to Mardin via Midiat.*—89½ miles.

General.—In dry weather this route is passable for wheels to Dara, but beyond Dara it becomes a rough stony track winding through low, rocky, brushwood-covered hills. A good driving road is reported from Kefrallab (mile 45¾) to Midiat (mile 49½).

Midiat to Mardin route is fairly easy for mules, but too rough for camels. Reported to be practicable for wheels as far as Apshi (mile 61).

Apshi (mile 61) to Reshmol (mile 84½). Impassable wheels.

Reshmol (mile 84½) to Mardin (mile 89½). Metalled road.

Water.—Water is obtainable only from rain-pools, wells or cisterns to be found at the villages. There are also a few springs.

Midiat ...	Mile	49½	Numerous wells—apt to fail in summer.
Estel	,,	52	Small supply from well.
Gengerez	,,	68½	Well and rainpool.
Khirbet Qalat	,,	70	Water in wells is bad.
Maserta	,,	74½	Wells and ponds.
Reshmol	,,	84½	Water from springs.
Mardin	,,	89½	Water from springs, good but not abundant. Well-water brackish.

Supplies.—Nisibin.—Supplies sufficient for a division (if the populace is friendly).

Between Nisibin and Midiat supplies very scarce, except at Dara (mile 16) where they are plentiful.

Midiat.—Supplies very scarce.

Midiat–Mardin.—No definite information, but route runs through a populous and well-cultivated district: large villages with cornfields and many vineyards. It is therefore probable that supplies would be comparatively plentiful.

Mardin.—District is surrounded with cornfields, vineyards and orchards. Wheat, barley, sesame, vegetables and rice are grown.

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Transport.—Horses and camels are obtainable at Nisibin in considerable numbers, but no information is available regarding the remainder of the route.

Fuel.—Brushwood is plentiful along the whole route.

Grazing.—There is very little grazing as most of the country is under cultivation.

Khirbet Allaf (mile 57) has a small amount of grazing in season.

Obstacles.—Seri Hofa (mile 79) is bad for wheeled transport and is only negotiable with great difficulty.

Camping Grounds.—Nisibin unlimited space.
Dara (mile 16). Not level, but good water supplies and fuel.
Gengerez (mile 68½). Càravan stage.
Maserta (mile 74½). No details.

Communications.—Nisibin–Kharput, via Diarbekr. (*See* report No. 2).
Midiat–Jazirah ibn Omar–Mosul.
Midiat–Hasan Kaif (on the Tigris).
Midiat–Diarbekr.
Mardin–Veranshehr, via Derek.
Mardin–Ras al Ain.

Inhabitants.—These are now all Moslem Kurds. A number of villages were occupied by Christians (Syrian Jacobites, but they were looted and destroyed during the war.

Climate.—Nisibin is fever stricken and infested with flies and scorpions in the summer.

Midiat and Mardin have dry and healthy climates with a comparatively mild winter.

Rains.—Generally speaking the route is negotiable for wheels in summer (May to November), but becomes impassable for any form of transport other than pack for several days following a heavy rain-fall.

Tactical.—Although the type of hilly country is especially favourable to an enemy adopting guerilla tactics, there appears to be no position of great tactical value until Mardin is reached. Built high on the south side of an almost conical hill some 3,500 ft. in altitude, it commands the Iraq plain and approaches therefrom.

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Stages.—	*Inter.*	*Total.*
1. Dara	16	16
II. Siti	21½	37½
III. Midiat	12	49½
IV. Genegerez	19	68½
V. Mardin	21	89½

Route 5.—*Diarbekr–Ziyaret, via Fargin and Zokh.*—109½ miles.

General.—This route was one of the main lines of communication during the War. It is passable for wheels over the entire length with the following exceptions: (Mile 68–93), between Batman Bridge and Hazo Su and Berar (mile 99) and (mile 108). At these points the road only requires levelling and, in the case of mile 108, widening to make it passable for wheels. The chaussée begins from the bridge below Diarbekr, but three miles can be saved by fording the river (when possible) and using one of the numerous and easy tracks that join the main route.

Water.—

Diarbekr	River Tigris, unlimited supply.
Ambar Chai	Mile 13½. Supply scanty, except in spring.
Kasimi	,, 30. Water from small river.
Mirallo	,, 40. Shallow streams.
Bavina	,, 63. Large spring.
Chingui	,, 66½. Large spring.
Batman Su	,, 68. Water plentiful from river.
R. Bank of Bakiri Su	,, 77–83. Water plentiful from river.
Reshkan	,, 87. Spring.
Hazo Su	,, 93. Water plentiful at ford and from a neighbouring spring
Ziyaret	,, 109½. Ample water from large stream.

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Supplies.—Diarbekr.—Plentiful supplies, grain and fruit.

Bavina (mile 63).—Moderate supplies of rice.

Bakiri Su (mile 83).—Moderate supplies of rice.

Ziyaret (mile 109½).—Limited amount of supplies.

Generally speaking the routes pass small villages of from 20 to 100 houses, where it is unlikely that supplies on a large scale would be found.

Transport.—Diarbekr. Being a commercial centre it can undoubtedly provide boat and pack transport in considerable quantities, but no definite information is available.

Fuel.—Very scarce over the whole route.

Grazing.—Comparatively poor. (Mile 93-96½.) Between Donuz Punar and Zokh there is a fairly good stretch of grazing.

Zinyaret.—Good grazing in season.

Obstacles.—(Mile 98). A bad piece of road crossing a steep ridge at 2,725 feet. Narrow and rocky.

Generally the route presents no serious obstacles.

Camping Grounds.—Zireh (mile 46). Fair camping ground, extent uncertain.

Zilan.—(Mile 70). Good ground, extent uncertain.

Ziyaret.—Good camping ground with space for two infantry battalions.

Communications.—(*a*) Diarbekr.—Birijik via Severek (*See* Report No. 3).

(*b*) Haidari Khan (mile 34) Hazro, Pasur and Kulp.

(*d*) Farqin (mile 54) Lijjeh.

(*e*) Melkishan (mile 77) Mush, Kulp and Nerjiki.

Ziyaret–Bitlis.

Inhabitants.—Tribal Kurds together with a few Turks, live in the majority of the villages on the route.

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Climate.—Diarbekr is an unhealthy locality. Along the whole route extremes of climate prevail. A very cold winter accompanied by snow storms is succeeded by a summer of great heat, which engenders occasional epidemics of typhus, cholera, etc.

Rain and Floods.—A certain amount of rain falls in the winter on a road already rendered impassable by snow; but its chief effect is to make the numerous fords over the rivers and streams unnegotiable.

Tactical.—The road leaving Diarbekr for Ziyaret is commanded from the summit of the basalt bluff on the far bank at the bend of the stream from a height of about 50 ft.

Zokh (mile 96½). The route is commanded from the summit of steep slope, on which is an old Kurdish fort.

Kokh (mile 107). Commands, from a height of 2,995 feet, the exit of the Bitlis pass.

Ziyaret.—The ridge, overlooking the basin in which this village is situated, commands the Bitlis pass and is a position of extraordinary strength.

Stages.—		*Inter.*	*Total.*
I.	Ambar Chai	13½	13½
II.	Kasimi	16½	30
III.	Zireh	16	46
IV.	Bavina	17	63
V.	Melkishan	14	77
VI.	Donuz Punar	16	93
VII.	Ziyaret	16½	109½

CHAPTER IX.

TURKISH FORCES.

General.—The forces of the Turkish Nationalist Government in Western Kurdistan and Northern Jazirah are composed of:—

(*a*) Regular troops.
(*b*) Gendarmerie.
(*c*) Police.
(*d*) Chattas.

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(a) Regular Troops.

Recruits for the Regular Army are obtained by conscription. Every Muhammadan male between the age of twenty-one and forty-two is liable to be called to the colours. Members of the gendarmerie and police force are normally exempt from military conscription, but recently (May, 1922) younger members of these services have been forced to serve with the colours.

Nationalities Employed.—In February, 1922, 45 per cent. of the officers were Kurds, 35 per cent. Turks, and 20 per cent. Arabs; while of the rank and file 45–50 per cent. were Turks, 45–50 per cent. Arabs, and 1 per cent. Christians.

Discipline.—Desertion is frequent and many recruits do not join the colours at the appointed time. Others evade conscription by bribery. The Army is closely linked with politics, and an officer, however capable he may be, must be a good Nationalist or resign his post. Mustafa Kemal, the Commander-in-Chief of the Nationalist Army, is in constant dread of an opponent and heavily punishes those who show, or whom he suspects of having, counter-revolutionary or reactionary tendencies.

Uniform, Pay and Rations.—Up to the end of 1921 the question of uniform, pay and rations was a serious one, and largely affected the number of desertions. The troops were badly clad, especially as regards boots, their rations were poor, and their pay often as much as three months in arrear. By June, 1922, matters appear to have improved, and the majority of the troops are clothed in khaki drill uniforms manufactured at Diarbekr. Improvement was also evident by this date both as regards the regularity of pay and the quantity and quality of the rations.

Organization and Distribution.—At present (July, 1922), the Nationalist Army in Western Kurdistan consists of a formation corresponding to an Army Corps, composed of one weak infantry division (2nd Division) and corps troops. The headquarters, which is known as the "headquarters of the troops on the Jazirah Front," is at Diarbekr. The 2nd Division is composed of three infantry regiments, viz., the 1st, 6th, and 18th; also a storm battalion. Each regiment is divided into three battalions and each battalion into four companies, including a machine gun company. With the exception of the machine gun companies, each company is divided

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into three platoons, which are sub-divided into an indefinite number of sections of one N.C.O. and eight men. In addition to the three battalions, every Turkish infantry regiment is supposed to have a machine gun company, but so far none of the regiments in this area appear to have been provided with such a formation. The storm battalion is by far the strongest battalion in the division. The average strength of a battalion is 150 to 200 rifles, while that of the storm battalion is approximately 450 rifles. The infantry are armed with the Mauser service rifle, and are well supplied as regards ammunition. In addition each battalion has on the average four machine guns, some being also equipped with French auto-rifles.

Corps troops consist of the 9th Cavalry Brigade (still in the process of formation), 2nd Artillery Regiment, a composite battalion, a depôt battalion, 33rd Recruiting Regiment, Labour, Engineer, Transport and Medical units. The 9th Cavalry Brigade is composed of the 1st and 23rd Cavalry Regiments (the former consisting of three squadrons of seventy sabres each and the latter of two squadrons of the same strength).

The 2nd Artillery Regiment is divided into two battalions, each consisting of two batteries, armed with Schroeder or Krupp Q.F. guns.

Places of Military Importance.—The chief places of Military importance are:—

1. Birijik.—An important post on the Euphrates.
2. Urfa.—Headquarters of the 9th Cavalry Brigade and centre of Shaikh al Senussi's activities.
3. Kharput.—Here there is a remount depôt, a large dump and aerodrome. This place forms an important link with Sivas.
4. Ras al Ain and Veranshehr.—Outposts opposing a hostile advance from the Mediterranean.
5. Diarbekr.—Headquarters of the forces on the Jazirah front.
6. Mardin.—Has a strong garrison and an ammunition dump.
7. Farqin. (Silwan)
   Almadin.
   Sor.
   Midiat.
   } Garrison towns.

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8. Sairt.—Headquarters of the 2nd Division.

9. Bitlis.—An important link with the Turkish Army on the Caucasus front.

10. Nisibin and Jazirah ibn Omar.—Outposts opposing a hostile advance up the Tigris.

Strength.—Total strength of regular troops in the area under report on 1st July, 1922.

Rifles	2,635
Sabres	140
(exclusive of the squadrons west of Euphrates).	
Guns	21
Machine Guns	44

Distribution Table.—A general distribution of the Turkish regular troops on the "Jazirah Front," i.e., in Western Kurdistan in July, 1922, is shown in appendix "C."

(*b*) *Gendarmerie.*

The gendarme forces are recruited by voluntary enlistment. Every Vilayet maintains a regiment of gendarmes, the headquarters of which are situated in the chief town of the Vilayet. Similarly every Sanjaq and Qaza maintain a battalion and a company respectively, with the unit headquarters in the chief town of the civil division. Battalion and a company headquarters are dependent on the headquarters of its next higher formation.

The duties of the gendarmerie are many and varied. They include the enforcement of the frontier regulations against travellers both entering and leaving Turkish territory; the rounding up of deserters from the regular army; safeguarding the main roads between the large towns; and the crushing of any disturbance of the peace, which gets beyond the control of the police but does not warrant the employment of troops.

The Gendarme service is very popular among men of military age. It releases them from the necessity of joining the Army; the bonds of discipline in the gendarmes are very light, and, owing to the nature of the duties to be performed, there is ample opportunity to make a small fortune by bribery or threats.

In Western Kurdistan the proportion of horsemen to footmen in the gendarmes is about 1 to 3½. Both mounted and dismounted men are armed with the Mauser service rifle, those mounted carrying sabres in addition.

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The strength of each company is roughly sixty men, and of these 70 per cent. are maintained at the Qaza headquarters, the remainder being scattered throughout the district. The total strength of the Turkish gendarmes in the area under discussion amounts to 170 cavalry and 620 infantry. In time of war these men are valuable auxiliaries to the Army as a means of collecting supplies, furnishing guides and rounding up deserters. Also it is not unusual for them to be employed in the fighting line in the same manner as a regular regiment.

(c) *The Police.*

The Police are responsible for maintaining order in the large towns, i.e., in the headquarters of the Vilayets and Sanjaqs. In most Qazas the police duties are performed by the gendarmes. There are a few exceptions to this rule, e.g., Nisibin, which has its own police force. In no case does the authority of the police extend outside the town.

In the chief town of a Vilayet, 70 to 100 policemen are maintained. These are under the control of a Mudir, who is usually nominated by Angora but works under the instructions of the Wali. This force is split up into smaller divisions among the various quarters of the town. Each division is under the control of a Commissaire. In the chief town of a Sanjaq the police number from thirty to forty. They are under the control of a Commissaire, who works under the instructions of the Mutassarif.

The police are all dismounted, unless they care to make use of their own private horses, and are only armed with a revolver. Their duties are to maintain order in the streets, to investigate crime, to execute the judgment of the law court, and to take charge of convicts. In the case of petty crime the Mudir has the power to settle the matter out of court. In the event of the situation getting beyond their control, the police must call upon the local gendarmes for assistance.

In actual fact the Turkish police are the most venal of all the public services. Every member of the force lives by bribery and corruption. There is no danger to a criminal, provided he produces sufficient cash, to prevent the revelation of his misdeed. In such circumstances it is not surprising to learn that crime and disorder flourish even in the centre of the government of a Vilayet.

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(*d*) *Chattas.* (Irregular tribal levies.)

Since the armistice the Turkish military authorities have consistently tried to supplement their regular and gendarme forces by irregular levies for miscellaneous duties, but chiefly for the control and regulation of the tribes. Previous to the inception of the chattas, an attempt was made to raise an irregular tribal force called the Milice. This, however, failed as it was thought to be an attempt to renew the Hamidieh system, and the chattas have since been formed. Men of this force are not enlisted for any specific period. They are all mounted and provide their own arms and horses; but they receive regular pay—fifteen paper liras per mensem—with clothing, rations and forage for their mounts. The service for this reason is popular, and it is not uncommon for regular soldiers to desert in one part of the country and join the chattas elsewhere. The bulk of the personnel are townsmen, whom the war has ruined, and Moslem refugees.

Although chattas are warned that they are liable to be called upon to fight in case of emergency, their military value is uncertain, and it is doubtful whether they would be employed for other purposes, in the event of an offensive, than raids into neighbouring countries.

It is difficult to gauge the strength of this force owing to its fluctuation, but from available information it is probable that there are not more than 1,000 sabres in the area under review.

Strength of Turkish Forces. Total strength of Turkish Forces (excluding police) in Western Kurdistan and Northern Jazirah (July, 1922).

	Rifles.	*Sabres.*	*Guns.*	*M.G.s.*
Regulars ...	2,635	140	21	44
Gendarmes ...	620	170	---	---
Chattas ...	---	1,000 (?)	---	---
Grand Total ...	3,255	1,310 (?)	21	44

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APPENDIX A.

Glossary of Topographical and other Terms.

(A.) = Arabic. (P.) = Persian. (K.) = Kurdish.
(T.) = Turkish. (S.) = Syriac. (H.) = Hindustani.

A.

'Aba (A.) Arab, *'abā* or *'abā'ah*.	Arab cloak.
Abyadh (A.)	White.
Agha (T.)	Chief.
Aghāj (T.)	Tree.
Ain (A.)	Spring (of water).
Al (A.)	Tribe; Bū, in the expression ālbū (occurring in many tribal names) is an abbreviation of Abū (*see* Abu).
Alai (T.)	A regiment, corresponds to a British infantry or artillery brigade.
Ambār (Anbār) (A.) ..	Storehouse.
Aq, Aqcheh (T.) ..	White.
Arabeh, Arāba or Arabāna (T. and A.).	Four-wheeled cart or carriage.
Ashāghi (T.)	Lower.
Ashirah (in genitive relation, Ashirat (A.).	Kindred, family tribe used of the tribes paying taxation through their own heads.
Av (K.)	Water, river.

B.

Badawin (A.)	Nomadic Arabs.
Badu (A.)	A member of a nomad tribe.
Bāghcheh (T.)	Garden.
Balad (A.)	Town or district.
Bani (A.)	Sons of (plur. in genitive relation, of Ibn, *q.v.*).
Bāsh (T.)	Head, summit.
Beg, Bey (T.)	Title given to persons of distinction.
Bel (T.)	Pass.
Bhusa (H.)	Chopped straw.
Bimbashi (T.)	Major (literally : head of one thousand).
Bin (A.)	Son ; variant form of Ibn (*q.v.*).
Bint (plur. Banāt) (A.) ..	Girl, daughter.
Boghaz (T.)	Pass, defile (lit. neck, throat).
Boyun (T.)	Col, ridge (lit. nape of neck).

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C.

Chai (T.) .. .. .. Stream.
Cham (K.) .. .. Meadowland, field (in T.—pine).
Cherrad (Churd or Karad) (A.). Water-hoist of skins, drawn by animals.
Chōl (K.) Chol (T.) .. Desert.

D.

Dāgh (T.) .. .. Mountain.
Deir (A.) .. .. .. Monastery.
Derband (T.) .. .. Pass (pronounced Devrent).
Desht (Dasht) (P.) .. Plain, plateau, desert.
Deveh (T.) .. .. Camel.
Dūz (T.) .. .. Level, plain.

E.

Effendi (T.) .. .. Esquire. A Turkish title borne by the middle classes.
Eski (T.) .. .. .. Old.

F.

Firqah (T.) .. .. Division (military). Also used for "Section" of a tribe.

G.

Gechid (T.) .. .. Fort, pass.
Gedik (T.) .. .. Pass.
Ghi (H.) .. .. .. Clarified butter.
Girik (K.) .. .. Hill.
Gok (T.) .. .. Blue.
Gol (T.) .. .. .. Lake.
Goz (T.) .. .. .. Fountain; arch of bridge (lit. eye).
Gumbet (T.) .. .. Small domed shrine.
Gund (K.) .. .. Village.

H.

Haji (A.) .. .. The title assumed by a Moslem who has performed the pilgrimage to Mecca.
Haj (A.) .. .. .. The pilgrimage to Mecca; pilgrim caravan.
Hammām (plur. Hammāmān) (A.). Bath.
Hisar (T.) .. .. Castle.

I.

Ibn (A.) .. .. .. Son.
Imām (A.) .. .. Religious leader; tomb of Imām.
Imāmzādeh (P.) .. .. Tomb of Imām.
Irmak (T.) .. .. River.

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J.

Jabal (A.) .. .. Hill, mountain.
Jazirah (A.) (in genitive relation, Jazirat). Island ; Mesopotamia.

K.

Kani (K.) .. .. Spring, well.
Kapau (T.) .. .. Gate.
Kefr (A.) .. .. Village.
Kelek (A., etc.) .. .. Raft of beams and branches, supported on inflated skins, of a kind used on rivers of Northern Mesopotamia (especially the Middle Tigris).
Keli, Kel (K.) .. .. Pass.
Kesik (T.) .. .. Broken.
Khān (A., P., etc.) .. Inn, caravanserai (spelt Khan, except with names).
Khān (P.) .. .. Lord, chief.
Kilisseh (T.) .. .. Church.
Kirk (T.) .. .. 40, numerous.
Koi (T.) .. .. .. Village.
Kuchuk (T.) .. .. Little.
Kupri (T.) .. .. Bridge.

L.

Lira (T.) .. .. A Turkish gold coin equivalent approximately to 16*s.* 8*d.*

M.

Ma'den (T.) .. .. Metal, mine.
Mahailah (A.) .. .. River sailing-craft of large size used in Iraq.
Maidan (A.) .. .. Open space, plain.
Mal Mudir (A.) .. .. A revenue official.
Malik (A.) .. .. King, chief.
Mamur (T.) .. .. Turkish subordinate departmental official.
Mashhūf (A.) .. .. A light reed or plank canoe covered with bitumen ; used on the marshes of Southern Iraq.
Masjid (A.) .. .. Place of prayer ; small mosque.
Mejidieh (T.) .. .. A Turkish silver coin equal to one-fifth of a lira.
Milice (T.) .. .. An irregular military formation (militia).
Miralai (T.) .. .. Colonel (literally : Commander of a regiment).
Mudir (T.) .. .. Administrator of a Nahiyah (*q.v.*).
Mukhtar (A.) .. .. The headman of a village or quarter of a town.
Mulazim (T.) .. .. A subaltern.

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N.

Nahiyah (T.) .. .. Turkish administrative district, sub-division of a Qaza (*q.v.*).
Nizam (T.) .. .. Turkish regular troops.
Nulla (H.) .. .. Water-course.

P.

Punār (T.) .. .. Spring.
Piastre (T.) .. .. A Turkish coin equivalent to twopence.

Q.

Qaimmaqam (T.) .. Lieut.-colonel, also the governor of a Qaza.
Qaimmaqamlik (T.) .. Qaza (*q.v.*).
Qara (T.) .. .. Black, great.
Qaza (T.) .. .. An administrative division of a Sanjaq.
Qishlāq (A., etc.) .. Barracks.
Quffah (A.) .. .. Coracle used on rivers of Central Mesopotamia.
Quru (T.) .. .. .. Dry.
Qūyū (T.) .. .. Spring, well.

R.

Rais (Ra'is) (A., etc.) .. Chief.
Ras (Ra's) (A.) .. .. Head, promontory.
Redif (A.) .. .. Turkish reserve force.
Resh (K.) .. .. Black.
Rūdbār (Rubar) (S.K.) .. River.

S.

Saghir (A.) .. .. Small.
Saiyid (A.) .. .. Moslem claiming descent from the Prophet.
Sanjaq (T.) .. .. Turkish administrative district, usually a sub-division of a Vilayet (*q.v.*).
Serai (Serā'i, Serāyeh) (?) Used in Mesopotamia of Government buildings; in India and Persia it is used to mean caravanserai.
Serdāb (A.) .. .. Underground room (for protection against the heat of summer).
Shakhtūr (A.) .. .. Large, flat-bottomed boat used for down-stream navigation on Middle Euphrates.
Shamal (A.) .. .. North, north wind.
Shaikh (A.) .. .. Chief of tribe (or sub-tribe); also used of religious leaders.
Shiah (A.) .. .. Professing, or pertaining to Shiism, one of the two great divisions of Islam.
Shuyukh (A.) .. .. Plural of Shaikh (*q.v.*).
Su (T.) .. .. .. Water, river.
Sunni (A.) .. .. Professing, or pertaining to Sunnism, one of the two great divisions of Islam.

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T.

Tabur (T.)	..	.. Battalion.
Tāsh (T.)	..	.. Stone.
Tel (Tell) (A.)	..	.. Mound, hill.
Tepeh (T.)	..	.. Hill.
Tulul (A.)	..	.. Plur. of Tel (*q.v.*).
Tura (Tur) (S.)	..	.. Mountain.

V.

Veiran (T.)	..	.. Ruined, ruin.
Vilayet (T.)	..	.. Province of Turkish Empire under a Vali.

W.

Wādi (A.)	..	.. Water-course, bed of stream, river valley (spelt Wadi, except with names).

Y.

Yāilā (T.)	..	.. Summer pasture grounds.
Yeni (T.)	..	.. New.
Yuqāri (T.)	..	.. Upper.
Yuzbashi (T.)	..	.. Captain (literally : head of one hundred).

Z.

Zaptieh (T.)	..	.. Member of armed police force.
Ziyāret (P., etc.)		.. Pilgrimage, place of pilgrimage, sanctuary, usually a tomb.
Zozan (K.)	..	.. Summer pastures.

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APPENDIX B.

Weights and Coinage.

Diarbekr.—

1 Qantar	= 30	Batmans	or 507	lb.	or 227	kilos.
1 Batman	= 6	Huqqahs	,, 16·9	,,	,, 7·56	,,
1 Huqqah	= 400	Dirhems	,, 2·82	,,	,, 1·26	,,

Mardin.—

1 Qantar	= 40	Batmans	,, 676	,,	,, 302·4	,,
1 Batman	= 6	Huqqahs	,, 16·9	,,	,, 7·56	,,
1 Huqqah	= 400	Dirhems	,, 2·82	,,	,, 1·26	,,

Mosul.—

1 Waznah	= 6·5	Huqqahs	,, 29·5	,,	,, 13·1	,,
1 Huqqah	= 640	Dirhems	,, 4·5	,,	,, 2	,,

Troy Weight.

Diarbekr.—

1 Miskal	=	24 Gud	or	90	grains.
1 Gud	=	4 Bugdeh	,,	3·75	,,
1 Bugdeh	=	·94 grains.			

Mosul.—

1 Miskal	=	1¼ Drams	,,	80	,,
1 Dram	=	4 Denks	,,	64	,,
1 Denk	=	4 Qirats	,,	16	,,
1 Qirat	=	4 grains.			

In addition there are several other systems of measures of weigh in use for particular articles.

Coinage.

Gold .. .. 5, 2½, 1, ½, ¼, lira pieces.
The first two are rarely met with. The lira and the ½-lira pieces are the most common.
The lira is worth 100 nominal gold piastres and 108 actual silver piastres.

Silver .. .. 1, ½, ¼, Mejidieh pieces.
2, 1, piastre pieces.
The Mejidieh is worth 20 piastres.

Nickel .. .. 1, ½, ¼, piastre pieces.

Paper .. .. The paper money now in circulation is worth approximately one-third of its face value.

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Exchange Value.

The value of the gold lira varies from district to district, but at present the good average value is Rs. 13·8. The silver Mejidieh is worth approximately Rs. 1·14, although there are nominally only 5 Mejidiehs to the lira.

The value of Turkish paper money fluctuates from time to time from one-third to one-sixth of its face value.

APPENDIX C.

Assumed Distribution of the Turkish Regular Forces on the Jazirah Front in July, 1922.

H.Q., Diarbekr.

- Corps Troops.
  - 9th Cavalry Brigade
    - 1st Cavalry Regt., Aintab–Birijik.
    - 23rd Cavalry Regt., Mardin–Aintab.
  - (?) Composite Battalion Kharput.
  - Depot Battalion .. } Diarbekr.
  - Engineers Battalion } Diarbekr.
  - Telegraph Company } Diarbekr.
  - Wireless Station .. } Diarbekr.
  - Transport Battalion } Diarbekr.
  - M.T. Company .. } Diarbekr.
  - Works Battalion .. } Diarbekr.
  - Ordnance Store .. } Diarbekr.
  - Labour Battalion .. } Diarbekr.
  - Hospital .. .. } Diarbekr.
  - 33rd Recruiting Regt. Bitlis.
  - 2nd Artillery Regt. Distributed over whole area.
  - H.Q. Guard .. } Diarbekr.
  - H.Q. Cavalry Sqdn. } Diarbekr.
- 2nd Division Sairt.
  - H.Q. Cavalry Sqdn. Nisibin.
  - 1st Infantry Regt. .. Farqin-Almadin-Sairt.
  - 6th Infantry Regt. Mardin-Midiat.
  - 18th Infantry Regt. Sairt.
  - Assault Battalion .. Jazirah ibn Omar.
  - Telegraph Company } Sairt.
  - 2nd Divisional Depot } Sairt.

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